FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Near East & South Asia

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MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 August Middle East and South Asia Review ..... AA 1

PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

Fatah Central Committee Resumes Meetings in Tunis *[Sanaa VOP]* ..... DD 1
PLO Calls for Lifting Camps Siege in Lebanon *[Sanaa VOP]* ..... DD 1
Palestinian Statement on 25, 26 Aug Operations *[Sanaa VOP]* ..... DD 1
Communique Describes Bus Station Bombing *[Sanaa VOP]* ..... DD 1
Palestine Fedayeen Attack Metulla With Rockets *[Sanaa VOP]* ..... DD 1

ALGERIA

Saudi Defense Minister Continues Visit to Algiers *[SPA]* ..... A 1
Received by Bendjedid *[SPA]* ..... A 1
Report on Talks With Bendjedid ..... A 1
Lebanon's Al-Jumayyil Arrives on Visit 30 Aug ..... A 1
Holds Talks With Bendjedid ..... A 1
Bendjedid Meets With Zambian, Mali Presidents ..... A 1

CHAD

Communiques, Reports Detail Further Aozou Actions ..... B 1
Communique No 85 Issued ..... B 1
Communique No 86 Issued ..... B 1
Aozou Said Retaken by Libya *[Paris]* ..... B 1
FANT Said Withdrawn to Bardai *[AFP]* ..... B 1
Forces Still Said 'at Aozou' ..... B 1
Communique No 87 Issued ..... B 1
Paris Embassy Says Aozou Held *[AFP]* ..... B 2
Paris Confirms Aozou's Fall ..... B 2
Libyan Bombing Raids Continue ..... B 2
Habre Prepared To Negotiate With Al-Qadhdhafi *[AFP]* ..... B 3
Goukouni Said in Libya for Talks With Al-Qadhdhafi *[AFP]* ..... B 3
Neo-GUNT Minister Offers Reaction to Conflict *[Paris]* ..... B 3
Bardai Radio on Aozou Fighting, French Role ..... B 3

EGYPT

Naval Facilities Reportedly Granted to West *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 28 Aug]* ..... C 1
USSR's Vorontsov To Bring Message to Mubarak 4 Sep ..... C 1
Foreign Ministry Source on Arab Ministers Meeting *[AL-JUMHURIYAH 27 Aug]* ..... C 1
Al-Janzuri to Amman for Joint Company Meetings ..... C 1
Returns, Comments on Talks ..... C 1
Maltese Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks ..... C 1
Holds Talks With Al-Majid ..... C 2
Confers With Prime Minister ..... C 2
Mubarak Receives Tabone ..... C 2
Israeli Request for Currency Said Turned Down *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 27 Aug]* ..... C 2
Prosecution Official Says Groups Seek Iranian Ties ..... C 2
Commentary Urges Measures Against Syria, Libya ..... C 3
Interior Ministry Statement on Suspect's Death ..... C 3
Further on Suspect's Death ..... C 3

3 Suspects Still Sought ..... C 3
Hideouts of Suspects Located ..... C 3
No Foreign Link Found 'Yet' ..... C 3
Man Detained ..... C 4
Suspect Arrested ..... C 4
Papers Report Fifth Suspect ..... C 4
Suspect Admits Role ..... C 4

LIBYA

Victory Against 'Agent' Habre in Aozou Reported ..... D 1
Prisoners Held; Arms Captured ..... D 1
'Agents' Pursued Into Chad ..... D 1
Habre Announces Surrender ..... D 1
France's Giraud Acknowledges Defeat ..... D 1
Armed Forces Issue Communique ..... D 1
Air Force Continues Raids ..... D 1
Press Invited to Battle Scene ..... D 2
Foreign Media Arrive in Aozou ..... D 2
Jabir Meets Aozou Soldiers ..... D 2
Arab Envoys Briefed on Situation ..... D 3
Armed Forces Halt Bombing ..... D 3
Commentary Praises Aozou Victory ..... D 3
Frolinat Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Aozou Victory ..... D 4
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Arab African Union Head ..... D 4
Col Jabir Receives Palestinian Officials ..... D 4
Statement Issued; Delegation Departs ..... D 4

SUDAN

INF's Al-Turabi on Formation of National Government ..... G 1
SPLA Radio Reports Recent Battle Claims ..... G 1
Rebels Raid Kapoeta Garrison *[Radio SPLA]* ..... G 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

INTER-GULF AFFAIRS

Gulf Countries Refuse U.S. Naval, Military Support *[KUNA]* ..... J 1
Iranian Gunboat Fires on Kuwaiti Vessel 31 Aug *[KUNA]* ..... J 1

KUWAIT

UN's Perez de Cuellar on Tehran Embassy Seizure ..... J 2
Defense Ministry States Missile Fired 30 Aug ..... J 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Source Denies REUTER Report on Iran Relations ..... J 2
Jordanian Minister Al-Rifa'i Arrives 30 Aug *[Amman]* ..... J 2
Received by King Fahd ..... J 2
Departs 30 Aug ..... J 2

IRAQ

Tariq 'Aziz on Iran's 'Game of Procrastination' ..... K 1
Gulf Conflict Operations, Air Strikes Continue ..... K 1
Communique No 2,797 Issued ..... K 1
Communique No 2,798 Issued ..... K 1
Communique No 2,799 Issued ..... K 2
Al-Basrah, N. Villages Shelled ..... K 3

Iranian Tanker Attacked 29 Aug ..... K 3
Communique No 2,800 Issued ..... K 3
Communique No 2,801 Issued ..... K 3
Communique No 2,802 Issued ..... K 4
Communique No 2,803 Issued ..... K 4
'Large Maritime Target' Struck ..... K 5
Another 'Maritime Target' Hit ..... K 5
Spokesman Denies Plane Downed ..... K 5
Further 'Maritime Target' Hit ..... K 5
Spokesman Views Rafiqdust Threats to Cities ..... K 5

ISRAEL

Cabinet Votes on Lavi Proposal 30 Aug ..... L 1
Decides To Terminate Production ..... L 1
Vote Proceeds Along Party Lines ..... L 1
Arens Reportedly To Resign ..... L 1
Arens on Decision To Resign ..... L 2
Finance Minister Interviewed ..... L 2
IAI Sources 'Stunned' ..... L 3
IDF 'Better Equipped' Without Lavi ..... L 3
Defense Ministry To Handle Closure ..... L 3
Peres on Cabinet Decision ..... L 4
Sharon Strongly Critical ..... L 4
Shamir Denies Politicizing Issue ..... L 5
IAI Workers March on Labor Party ..... L 5
Shamir Rejects Second Vote ..... L 5
Text of Cabinet Resolution ..... L 5
Shamir Now Examining Second Vote ..... L 5
Defense Ministry Denies IAI Dismissals ..... L 6
4 'Terrorists' Killed in Security Zone 29 Aug ..... L 6
Shomron Explains Operation ..... L 6
Vanunu Trial Opens 30 Aug Behind Closed Doors ..... L 6

JORDAN

Prime Minister al-Rifa'i Returns From Saudi Arabia ..... M 1
Egyptian Official Al-Janzuri Arrives 28 Aug ..... M 1
Meets Al-Rifa'i, Officials ..... M 1
Received by King Husayn ..... M 1
Joint Holding Company Formed ..... M 1
Al-Janzuri, Delegation Depart ..... M 1

LEBANON

Birri Outlines Program To End Camps Crisis *[VONR]* ..... N 1
Derides Al-Qadhdhafi *[VOL]* ..... N 1
Group Demands Libyan Diplomats Leave 'Immediately' *[RFL]* ..... N 1
'Many' Casualties in Two Tripoli Explosions 29 Aug *[VOL]* ..... N 1
24 Casualties in Bus Bomb *[VOL]* ..... N 2
Group Claims Blasts *[RFL]* ..... N 2
Birri on Need for Reconciliation, Syrian Presence *[VOL]* ..... N 2
Birri Arrives in Ihdin To Meet Franjiyah ..... N 2
Interior Minister Al-Rasi Views Security Situation ..... N 2
Ministerial Meeting Convenes Under Al-Huss ..... N 3
Al-Huss on Meeting ..... N 3
Ja'ja' on Unity Among Christians, Syrian Plans *[RFL]* ..... N 3
Resistance Fires Rockets; Israelis Continue Firing ..... N 4
Israeli, Lahd Forces Attacked ..... N 4
200-300 Fighters in Clash ..... N 4
8 Israeli Soldiers Killed ..... N 5

10 Killed in Jazzin Area *[VONR]* ..... N 5
Burning Tires Close Roads in Sidon 29 Aug *[VONR]* ..... N 5

SYRIA

Damascus Condemns Resumed Iraqi Attacks on Iran ..... O 1
FRG Official Arrives for Talks on Hostages *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... O 1
Received by Al-Shar' ..... O 1
Meets With Minister al-Kasm ..... O 2
Rajjuh Returns From Tunis Information Meeting ..... O 2

AFGHANISTAN

Pakistani Official, Delegation Arrive for Visit ..... P 1
Received by Abdul Wakil ..... P 1
Najib Visits Konduz Province, Attends Conference ..... P 1
Karachi Notes Soviet Bombing of Civilians in Balkh ..... P 1

BANGLADESH

President Invites Opposition Leaders for Talks ..... Q 1
Foreign Minister Returns From Overseas Trip ..... Q 1
Jatiya Party Official on Flood Relief Work *[THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER 21 Aug]* ..... Q 1

INDIA

Defense Ministry Denies Troops Massing on Border ..... R 1
Sikh 'Terrorists' Arrested After Delhi 'Encounter' ..... R 1
'Terrorists' Kill Border Security Officer in Punjab ..... R 1
Gandhi Addresses Party on Drought, Punjab Situation ..... R 1
USSR's Shevchenko on 'Forces of Destabilization' *[ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA 20 Aug]* ..... R 2
Defense Ministry Notes Development of Advanced Missiles ..... R 2

IRAN

Oil Installations Hit; Retaliation Bombing ..... S 1
Iraq Raids Oil Installations ..... S 1
Spokesman on 'Duty' To Respond ..... S 1
Two Iraqi Planes Downed 29 Aug ..... S 1
IRGC Downs Iraqi Aircraft ..... S 1
Red Alert on 'Possible' Air Raid ..... S 1
Velayati Letter to UN ..... S 1
Al-Basrah Residents Warned ..... S 2
Al-Basrah, Umm Qasr Shelled ..... S 2
Iraqi Planes Bomb Industrial Sites ..... S 2
Iraq Bombs Gachsaran Site ..... S 2
Iraqi Eco-Military Targets Shelled ..... S 2
Majlis Speaker on Need To Respond to U.S. Presence ..... S 2
Rafiqdust Threatens Missile Attacks on Baghdad ..... S 2
IRGC Minister on Submarines, Military Plans ..... S 3
Defense Minister Announces New Mine, Missile ..... S 6
Warns Kuwait 'Patience Limited' ..... S 7
Warns 'Oppressors' at Fronts ..... S 7
UK Evasive on Iraqi Links to Kuwaiti Reflagging ..... S 7
Cypriot-Registered Tanker Reportedly Hits Mine ..... S 7
Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue ..... S 7
Communique No 2,942 ..... S 7
Communique No 2,943 ..... S 8
Communique No 2,944 ..... S 8
Communique No 2,945 ..... S 8

PAKISTAN

Further Reportage on Violent Incidents in Karachi ..... V 1
Press Note Says 145 Arrested ..... V 1
Ethnic Party Leaders Arrested *[AFP]* ..... V 1
400 Arrested Following Clashes *[AFP]* ..... V 2
Police Seize Arms, Arrest 6 ..... V 2
Official Views U.S. Gulf Policy, Internal Security *[JANG 20 Aug]* ..... V 2
Satellite Launch Planned for Early 1988 ..... V 2

31 August Middle East and South Asia Review

LD311337 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

In the wake of a series of Iraqi air strikes on Iranian targets in the Gulf and on land over the weekend, a Kuwaiti-registered container ship, the *Jebel 'Ali*, was damaged by rocket and machine-gun fire from an Iranian gunboat, KUNA reported 31 August, adding that the ship was on a "routine voyage" between Khawr Fakkan and Al-Rashid port in Dubayy. An Iranian spokesman had warned 29 August that Iran has a "duty to give a crushing response" to Iraqi attacks, Tehran radio reported. Iran will give a "tit-for-tat" reply to attacks on its vessels in the Gulf, a *Jomhuri-ye Eslami* editorial carried by the radio reiterated.

Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, warned that Baghdad will be "levelled" by missiles if Iraq resumes bombing Iranian cities. Furthermore, Iranian Defense Minister Mohammad Hoseyn Jalali announced 28 August that Iran is manufacturing a "new missile" suitable for use in any war of cities, Tehran radio reported. The minister also noted that a mine that the "enemy cannot identify or discover" has been produced. In response to "insolent threats" against Iraqi cities, a military spokesman cautioned Iran to "think twice" before committing a "new foolish act" for which Iraq will retaliate, INA reported 31 August.

Regarding weekend action in the Gulf, Iraq carried out air strikes on various large maritime targets near the Iranian coast 29-31 August, according to military statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. One such target was hit in the Gulf 31 August, and three targets were attacked on 30 August. According to Lloyds sources cited by INA, the Iranian tanker *Alvand* was set ablaze near Sirri Island by Iraqi warplanes 29 August. Tehran radio reported that a Cypriot-registered tanker "probably" hit a mine in the area of Bahrain 29 August.

In other action, Iraqi warplanes raided oil istallations on Rakhsh, Lavan, and Farsi Islands, according to a 29 August communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. The next day power stations at Tabriz and Hamadan, as well as a satellite ground station in the Asabadad area, oil pumping stations at Gachsaran, and SAM batteries were the target of air attacks, communiques announced. Tehran radio acknowledged the strikes on Hamadan, East Azarbayjan, and Gachsaran, noting that there were casualties and damage. The radio also reported that two Iraqi warplanes were shot down 29 August in the "southern maritime regions" and another over eastern Azarbayjan 30 August. An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA denied that a plane was lost that day.

For Iran's part, Tehran radio warned Al-Basrah residents of an impending attack 30 August and later reported the shelling of economic installations in the Al-Basrah and Umm Qasr areas. While an Iranian communique reported by IRNA charged that Iraq shelled civilian areas of Khorramshahr and Abadan, an Iraqi communique carried on Voice of the Masses radio accused Iran of shelling residential areas of Al-Basrah and Qal'at Dizah.

The heavy action follows a 29 August speech during which Iraqi President Saddam Husayn denounced the Iranian Government for "procrastinating" and "playing games" by not giving a clear response to UN Security Council Resolution No 598. In remarks carried by Voice of the Masses radio, Saddam Husayn said: "We will attack them at sea." He declared that his country's armed forces would attempt to destroy Iran's "economic lifelines that supply them with the means of aggression," and he asserted that nothing less than Iran's full compliance with all provisions of the UN resolution will be acceptable. The president also assured Kuwait that "Iraq will retaliate for any bullet fired from Iran."

Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told Japanese official Takashi Onda that a visit by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar could be "fruitful and constructive," IRNA reported 30 August, adding that the Japanese diplomat commented on the "friendly" bilateral relations and recalled Tokyo's efforts to "modify" Resolution No 598.

Libya-Chad

A Libyan communique broadcast by Tripoli television 29 August announced that 600 Chadian soldiers were killed and 877 injured in fighting during which Libya regained control of Aozou. "Modern U.S. and French arms" as well as "Egyptian arms and ammunition" were among the materiel destroyed during the battle, JANA noted. AFP reported that according to its correspondent in a group of journalists who toured the combat zone at Libyan invitation, some 1,000 Libyan soldiers were deployed around the town, and FANT soldiers defending Aozou had withdrawn to Bardai. The agency later reported that, according to a source from the Chadian Embassy in Paris, troops are "holding their positions" around the oasis. "Our forces are still at Aozou," a 30 August commemtary broadcast by Ndjamena radio asserted. In a communique broadcast by the radio 28 August, the FANT High Command denied that Aozou had been recaptured.

Libyan warplanes are continuing their "raids inside the Chadian lands," a military statement carried by JANA 30 August declared. FANT communiques broadcast by Ndjamena radio confirmed that Libya bombed Wour, Bardai, Aozou, Ounianga, and Faya-Largeau 28-30 August. Zouar and Yebbi were also bombed, according to a military statement reported by Ndjamena radio. For Chad's part, two Libyan MIG-23's and a "combat helicopter" were shot down over Aozou 29 August, FANT announced.

The Libyan People's Foreign Liaison Bureau explained in a 28 August statement carried by JANA that the country had exercised its "legitimate right" to defend its borders. In remarks cited by AFP, Chadian President Hissein Habre reasserted his willingness to discuss the issue with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Chad is prepared to cooperate with a UN or OAU "initiative" but "we will not trade our territory for peace," he stressed.

The Libyan General Command broadcast a call on Tripoli television 28 August for all soldiers to join their units "immediately" to prepare for a "military display" on the occasion of the 1 September Revolution anniversary.

Israel

Lavi Decision — The Cabinet approved a proposal by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres that the development of the Lavi be continued but that plans for its production be abandoned, Jerusalem radio reported 30 August, noting that the vote was 12 in favor of the Peres proposal, 11 against, and 1 abstention. The Cabinet resolution carried by the Government Press Office specified that the Defense Ministry should act to ensure Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) "technological and productive capability." Nevertheless, "senior sources" at IAI were "stunned" by the decision, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that they believe Israel's status as an aircraft producer will be harmed. "Hundreds" of IAI workers marched from the Defense Ministry to Labor Party headquarters in a peaceful protest against the decision, the radio reported 31 August, noting that police prevented the demonstrators from mounting a "spontaneous march" on the U.S. Embassy.

In the wake of the Cabinet action, Minister Moshe Arens announced his intention to resign. In remarks carried by the radio, he termed the decision a "very serious mistake" for which he is not prepared to "bear responsibility." Finance Minister Moshe Nisim, the only Likud member who voted for the Peres proposal, described his decision as "very painful." In an interview with the radio, Nisim said he does not believe that his vote on "such a matter of principle" will damage his relationship with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Vanunu Trial — The trial of Mordakay Vanunu on charges of treason and espionage opened "behind closed doors" 30 August, Jerusalem radio reported.

Palestinian Figure Detained — The detention of Faysal al-Husayni, a well-known Palestinian figure who was taken into custody for 48 hours 26 August, was extended by 8 days, Jerusalem radio reported 28 August, noting that Al-Husayni was arrested on suspicion of "offenses" against state security.

Lebanon

Israeli forces killed four "terrorists" near the village of Yatar 29 August, Jerusalem radio reported. The action came within the framework of Israeli efforts to strike against staging areas for "katyusha shelling and terrorist activity." In remarks to IDF radio, the Israeli chief of staff emphasized the IDF'S desire to maintain "normal life" on both sides of the security zone. Artillery duels took place in the Yatar and Kafra areas 28 and 29 August, Beirut radio reported, and, according to Jerusalem radio, six fighters were killed by SLA tank rounds 29 August.

In Tripoli, 2 people were killed and 22 wounded in two explosions targeted against public buses 29 August, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The Lebanese Liberation Front claimed responsibility for the explosions in a telephone call to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Amal leader Nabih Birri repeated his call for a "national conference" to reach agreement on a "new Lebanon" and set up an "extraordinary government" for its implementation, Voice of Lebanon radio reported 30 August. Birri, who was speaking at festivities in Ba'labakk to commemorate the ninth anniversary of the disappearance of Imam Musa al-Sadr, also outlined a 5-point program for ending the camps crisis, including the establishment of joint liaison offices to supervise the implementation of the Damascus agreement and a "higher coordination committee," Voice of National Resistance Radio reported.

Acting Prime Minister Sa'im al-Huss convened a "ministerial meeting" 29 August attended by Ministers 'Abdallah al-Rasi and 'Adil 'Usayran, Beirut radio reported. In remarks cited by the radio, Al-Huss noted that the economic situation was discussed, and he declined to blame President Amin al-Jummayil's "boycott" for the current problems. Meanwhile, demonstrators in Sidon erected barricades of burning tires to protest the high cost of living and the "sharp slump" of the Lebanese pound, Voice of National Resistance reported.

Syria

Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'us al-Kasm received FRG Foreign Ministry official Heinz Fiedler for talks 29 August, DPA reported, noting that the Syrian Foreign Ministry termed bilateral relations "good and cordial." According to "informed circles" in Damascus, Syria promised to "do everything" to bring about the release of Alfred Schmidt and Rudolf Cordes, the two German hostages in Lebanon. The agency also cited a *Der Speigel* report that "private sources" have paid a ransom for the two. Fiedler also met with Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', Damascus radio reported.

Saudi Arabia

King Fahd received Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, who delivered a letter from King Husayn on regional developments and the "close" bilateral ties, Amman radio reported 30 August.

OPEC Affairs

Meetings of the OPEC ministerial committees on production and pricing have been rescheduled from 7 September to 10 September, OPECNA reported 28 August. In remarks cited by IRNA, Iranian Oil Minister Golem Reza Aqadadeh accused some OPEC members of "profiteering" at the expense of others. An "immediate production cutdown" is the only way to maintain stable prices and keep the market situation from worsening, the Iranian official declared.

Egypt

While security authorities continue their investigation of the 13 August assassination attempt against former Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il, an Interior Ministry statement carried 28 August by MENA announced that Muhammad Kazim 'Abd al-Qawi, one of the four prime suspects in the case, was killed in a shootout with the police. Police arrested a pharmacist at whose home the fugitive was killed, the agency added. After having been surrounded, another suspect gave himself up, MENA said, adding that he later confessed his part in the attack.

Pakistan

More than 400 people have been arrested, including tribal party leaders, as police tried to quell ethnic rioting in the south, AFP reported 30 August, adding that some 30 people have been killed and "hundreds" injured since the disturbances broke out 27 August.

Fatah Central Committee Resumes Meetings in Tunis
JN300554 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee resumed its meetings in Tunis yesterday under the chairmanship of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to discuss a number of issues concerning the Palestine question and the developments in the Arab arena. WAFA noted that the committee, which had begun its new round of sessions earlier, will discuss the situation in the besieged Palestinian camps in Lebanon, the situation in the occupied homeland, and the latest political and military developments in the region.

PLO Calls for Lifting Camps Siege in Lebanon
JN300619 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] The PLO has reiterated its call on the Arab and friendly countries to intervene to end the camps siege as the general strike staged by the residents of these camps is entering its 2d week.

A PLO statement reported that the Amal Movement has tightened its military, security, supply, and medical siege on the Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah camps in Beirut and al-Rashidiyah camp in Tyre region and continued its attacks on Palestinian citizens. The statement warned against continuing these schemes and asserted that the Palestinian masses will defend their lives, fate, and national cause.

Palestinian Statement on 25, 26 Aug Operations
JN301804 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 30 Aug 87

["Text" of statement issued "yesterday" by a spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command; place not given]

[Text] Our heroes of the martyr Burnu group operating inside the occupied land mounted two daring operations on 25 and 26 August. The first operation was directed against a military vehicle on the Bethlehem-Hebron Road, and the second was against a military tank on the Gaza-Khan Yunus Road. The details are as follows:

First, at 2215 on 25 August our revolutionaries attacked a military vehicle with incendiary bombs as it was traveling on the Bethlehem-Hebron Road near Khirbit Sulayman. They managed to damage the vehicle and wound its driver.

Second, at 1100 on 26 August our revolutionaries attacked a military tank with incendiary bombs as it was traveling on the Gaza-Khan Yunus Road near the town of Dayr al-Balah. The attack started a fire in the tank and wounded two enemy personnel.

The enemy rounded up over 30 Palestinian citizens under the pretext that they were associated with the two operations.

Revolution until victory!

Communique Describes Bus Station Bombing
JN281712 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 28 Aug 87

["Text" of a communique issued by the military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command; date, place not given]

[Text] The heroic operations of our revolutionaries have continued against enemy military and vital targets throughout our occupied territory. They have continued despite the brutal repressions and arrests the enemy carries out against our masses following every military operation.

On the morning of 27 August, a special group of the martyr leader Abu 'Ali Iyad unit carried out a heroic operation against a Zionist bus in the southern area of Tel Aviv. The operation went as follows:

The group's personnel managed to bypass all enemy security measures and planted time bombs inside an enemy bus in the bus station adjacent to the train station in Tel Aviv. The group then continued its move successfully as scheduled. At 1045 yesterday, the bombs went off, causing a state of panic and fright among enemy personnel. The explosion wounded many people and damaged the bus.

Palestine Fedayeen Attack Metulla With Rockets
JN300657 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Palestinian Fedayeen have attacked with heavy rockets the Metulla settlement, north of occupied Palestine, for the second time in 4 days.

In a statement carried by WAFA yesterday, a Palestinian spokesman said that several Zionist enemy personnel were wounded and that fires broke out in many enemy military targets in the attack.

Saudi Defense Minister Continues Visit to Algiers

Received by Bendjedid

LD291524 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1445 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Algiers, 29 Aug (SPA) — Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid today received His Royal Higness Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, who is currently paying an official visit to Algeria at the invitation of President Bendjedid.

The meeting was attended by Ahmad Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister; Boualem Bessiaeh, minister of culture and tourism; Brigadier General al-Arbi Bilkhayr, director of the President's Office; and the Algerian ambassador to the Kingdom. The Saudi side included 'Ali ibn Musallam, royal court adviser, and Muhammad Hasan Faqi, Saudi ambassador to Algeria.

Report on Talks With Bendjedid

LD292027 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1820 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Algiers, 29 Aug (SPA) -- Following a meeting with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn Abd al-'Aziz pointed out in a press statement that the talks dealt with bilateral relations, in accordance with the common basis agreed to by the two sides. He stressed that bilateral relations are excellent and developing constantly in the interest of Islam, our two fraternal peoples, and the Arab and Islamic nations. Prince Sultan ibn Abd al-'Aziz added that the talks were complementary to the historic meeting which took place in the presence of the custodian of the two holy mosques — King Fahd ibn Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud — between Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Moroccan King Hassan II. May God guide the custodian of the two holy mosques to everything which might facilitate the task of the brothers in the Great Arab Maghreb and help everyone to do his utmost for our nation, he prayed.

His highness expressed his thanks and appreciation for the warm welcome accorded to him and to the accompanying delegation by the Algerian officials. He has felt at home and among brothers, he asserted.

Lebanon's Al-Jumayyil Arrives on Visit 30 Aug

LD301854 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil arrived in Algiers a few moments ago and was welcomed by President Chadli Bendjedid.

Holds Talks With Bendjedid

LD310955 Algeris APS in Arabic 0900 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Algiers, 31 Aug (APS) — Mr Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN Party, and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, who arrived in Algiers yesterday evening, held talks at the El Mithak residence in Algiers yesterday evening.

In addition to discussing ways to strengthen bilateral relations, the talks covered the latest developments in Lebanon and in the Arab world.

Other talks, which were held privately, also brought President Chadli Bendjedid and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil together at the El Mithak residence the same day. These talks enabled the two heads of states to study the situation in Lebanon and in the region in detail.

After these talks, President Bendjedid held a banquet in honor of President Amin al-Jumayyil. [passage omitted]

Bendjedid Meets With Zambian, Mali Presidents

LD272004 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 27 Aug 87

[Text] Kenneth Kaunda, OAU president and Zambian head of state, left Algiers this morning after a short visit, during which he met President Chadli Bendjedid, and Abdou Diouf and Moussa Traore, the presidents of Senegal and Mali.

The issue of the Chadian-Libyan border conflict has been at the center of consulations held by the new leader of the African organization, who arrived from Ndjamena, and left Algeris for Tripoli where he is to meet Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi.

The tripartite meeting assembled Presidents Kenneth Kaunda, Moussa Traore, and Chadli Bendjedid this morning at the President's residence of Al-Mithaq.

The meeting assessed developments on the African scene in the light of decisions and resolutions adopted at the latest OAU summit. The situation in southern Africa, the development of the Chadian-Libyan border conflict, and international action for the economic recovery of Africa received particular attention from the three heads of state.

Regarding southern Africa, the need to impose global and compulsory sanctions against the apartheid regime has been stressed.

Regarding the Chadian-Libyan conflict, the three heads of state are convinced that resorting to force is not a means of solving the conflict. The OAU ad-hoc committee is still considered the best framework in which to promote a peaceful, negotiated, and mediated solution to the conflict, and in which to restore cooperation and good-neighborly relations between Libya and Chad.

In addition to discussing the economic crisis in Africa, the three heads of state exchanged views on various international topics, particularly the development of the Middle East crisis, the continuation of the Iraq-Iran conflict, and the situation in the Gulf.

Communiques, Reports Detail Further Aozou Actions

Communique No 85 Issued

AB281905 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1854 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Communique No 85 issued by the FANT High Command on 28 August in Ndjamena]

[Text] This afternoon, Libyan forces carried out land and air attacks on the martyred town of Aozou. At the time of this present communique's issuance, fighting of unprecedented violence is continuing. Faithful to their (?mission), the valiant FANT will take up the challenge. Forward march, freedom fighters. The struggle will continue until final victory.

Communique No 86 Issued

AB291343 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1335 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Communique No 86 issued by the FANT High Command on 29 August in Ndjamena]

[Text] The violent fighting that lasted late into the night resumed again this morning. The valiant FANT troops are fighting courageously against the enemy and shot down two MIG-23's and a combat helicopter over the town of Aozou this morning. Gallant freedom fighters, worthy sons of Chad: Fly high the flag of victory, because all eyes are turned to us. We will achieve the final victory, for ours is a just cause!

Aozou Said Retaken by Libya

LD291421 Paris Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] The Libyan flag once again flies over Aozou; almost 1,000 Libyan troops have redeployed on this strip of territory claimed both by Chad and Libya. The palm grove situated in northern Chad came under the control of the Chadian Government on 8 August.

FANT Said Withdrawn to Bardai

AB291447 Paris AFP in English 1408 GMT 29 Aug 87

[By Rene Naba]

[Text] Aozou, Chad, Aug 29 (AFP) — Libyan forces were in control of the Oasis town of Aozou on Saturday [29 August], with about 1,000 Libyan troops deployed around the town, Western journalists, including an *Agence France-Presse* correspondent, here observed.

Aozou, the administrative centre of the so-called Aozou Strip in northern Chad, was recaptured by Chadian forces on August 8 after 14 years of Libyan occupation. Libya claims the Aozou Strip under the terms of a 1935 treaty between the former colonial powers, Italy and France.

The journalists, conducted by Libyan regional commander Colonel Ali Cherif Riffi, were guided around the combat zone and the oasis for four hours.

The burnt bodies of some thirty Chadian soldiers lay on the 10-kilometre (six-mile) track leading into the oasis, together with the wreckage of Chadian armoured vehicles and a large quantity of arms, including Milan anti-tank rockets and Egyptian made munitions. Six Chadian prisoners were shown to the journalists.

Libyan ground forces with air support were continuing sweeping-up operations in the region.

Chadian forces defending the town withdrew to the locality of Bardai, about 40 kilometres (25 miles) to the southwest in a move which had been prepared Friday, reliable sources in Paris said.

In Ndjamena, a statement by the military command said that the conflict in the Aozou region was continuing Saturday afternoon and the Chadian troops were "fighting courageously".

Forces Still Said 'at Aozou'

AB300756 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Current events in the martyred town of Aozou are sufficient proof of the fact that the colonel of Sidra is determined to impose himself on our territory. The Libyans have attacked FANT positions by land and air. As usual, our forces are pursuing their noble mission of defending our territory and with similar determination.

Meanwhile, the press agency that is renowned for its misleading information, JANA, announced 2 days ago that Aozou had been taken by Libyan forces. This information is false because our forces are still at Aozou; they have been attacked, but they are facing the situation with their characteristic bravery and courage. This campaign of lies will not succeed. The Chadians are determined to contest the battle to the end.

Communique No 87 Issued

AB301223 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1213 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Communique No 87 of the FANT High Command issued on 30 August in Ndjamena]

[Text] The bellicose attitude of Al-Qadhdhafi's Libya persists with the intensification of its savage and murderous bombings in our country's north and in the killing of innocent civilians. This morning, 30 August 1987, the towns of Wour, Bardai, Ounianga, and Faya-Largeau were bombed by the Libyan Air Force. One woman and a child were killed in the town of Faya. Faced with this serious situation, the patriotic forces will continue to face the enemy with dignity and determination.

Paris Embassy Says Aozou Held

AU301309 Paris AFP in English 1233 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Paris, Aug 30 (AFP) — Chadian forces are holding their positions around the locality of Aozou, in northern Chad, despite Libyan claims to have recaptured the oasis town, the Chadian Embassy in Paris said on Sunday afternoon.

An embassy source said that only one access route to the town had been taken by the Libyans.

"Taking a single position isn't enough to enable you to say you control the region", the spokesman told *Agence France-Presse*.

"Anyway, Chadian troops were not stationed in the centre of Aouzou because of the lie of the land, which would have made it impossible to defend the town effectively", he added.

He said that clashes around Aozou were continuing early Sunday.

The embassy said that early Sunday Libyan warplanes bombed the localities of Bardai, 40 kilometres (25 miles) southwest of Aozou, Wour, in the mountainous Tibesti region, and Ounianga-Kebir, further to the east.

Libyan planes also bombed Faya-Largeau, the administrative capital of northern Chad, dropping 23 bombs and killing a woman and her child, the embassy said.

Paris Confirms Aozou's Fall

LD301706 Paris Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Excerpt] The Libyans have thus well and truly regained Aozou. The Libyan flag has flown over this locality for the last 24 hours. However, we had to wait until yesterday afternoon to receive confirmation of this victory by Tripoli, which was announced by JANA on Friday [28 August] evening. This was also confirmed by a small group of Western journalists who were hurriedly taken to the site by the Libyans. Among them was (Pierre Aski) from the French newspaper *Liberation*. We managed to contact him this morning in Tripoli following his return from Aozou. We first asked him whether the figure of 600 Chadian soldiers killed and nearly 900 others wounded was at all close to reality.

[(Aski)] We in fact saw quite a lot of damage, particularly burned cars that were bombed by Libyan aircraft, but in all, we saw about 30 Chadian corpses. There are perhaps more in the mountains and in other places where fighting took place, but nothing seem to suggest that the figure is as high as that advanced by the Libyans. It seems that serious ground fighting did not take place in Aozou itself. The main fighting in fact took place on this road leading to Aozou. There we saw — every 200 or 300 meters — a destroyed Chadian position; we saw burned cars; settlements that had been bombed. But once we arrived in Aozou village itself, we saw fire still burning in one part of the palm grove. But there was no sign of fighting on the ground in particular, no dead bodies in the village itself. It seems that the Chadians must have withdrawn from the palm grove once they understood that all their defense lines approaching Aozou base had to give in to the Libyan pressure.

There are many Libyan soldiers now present there. We have observed several hundred of them ourselves, and they were dispersed over strategic positions around the palm grove. They also have at their disposal — and this is now a novelty in this fighting — very light military equipment: jeeps, Toyotas, and light cars, and they do not any longer have — as in preceding battles — those heavy T-54 tanks that were the favorite targets of Chadian missiles. But we must state that the Libyans now monopolize the airspace. There is a lot of air activity — MIG's and combat helicopters and MI-24's, which ceaselessly fly over the area. This shows that the Libyans are quite sure of themselves, since they fly at very low altitudes. That is, they are not afraid of Chadian antiaircraft defenses or of Chadians lying in ambush with SAM-7 missiles or some other type of missiles.

We have seen only six Chadian prisoners, who were shown to us in a very bad state. One of them was a Nigerian, according to the Libyans. The Libyans on the other hand told us that other prisoners have already been taken to Tripoli. But we have not seen them and it does not seem that the number of prisoners taken is very high.

From what we have seen, there was no particular jubilation in Tripoli, but on the other hand, Libyan media — radio and television — very quickly announced the news and are constantly broadcasting congratulatory messages coming from all regions of the country and even from abroad. They congratulated Colonel al-Qadhdhafi on the victory in Aozou, but he has not made any comment. I think that he is waiting to do so on Tuesday — the big day that is the 18th anniversary of his coming to power, and which will certainly be marked by this victory in Aozou. [passage omitted]

Libyan Bombing Raids Continue

AB302019 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] The FANT High Command has just sent us the following message: Zouar and Yebbi Bou were bombed throughout the afternoon by the Libyan Air Force.

In addition to the bombing, the invaders attacked the positions of our valiant freedom fighters in the Aozou administrative post in the Aozou Mountains. The FANT, who have been fighting with determination and courage against the might of the enemy's powerful gunfire, has decided to fight until the last drop of blood. During these clashes of unprecedented violence, our fighters have shot down two MIG-23 aircraft and a helicopter, bringing to (?15) the number of the invaders' aircraft destroyed.

The morale of the FANT at this time is very high. We are sure to achieve final victory because our cause is just; because our children will not let themselves be colonized; and because this country is really ours. A few days before the 1 September anniversary, which marks the coming to power of the mercenary currently governing in Tripoli, Al-Qadhdhafi wishes to bolster his image by embarking on a vast disinformation campaign. The

(?false news) being propagated by JANA will not have any effect on the FANT'sdetermination. At any rate, it is out of the question to leave Aozou to the [word indistinct] slave dealers. Aozou is part of our country. This is the reason why, in an interview with a group of French journalists, El Hadj Hissein Habre stated that we are for peace, and not for just any kind of compromise. This just peace must respect the sovereignty, dignity, and independence of our country.

Habre Prepared To Negotiate With Al-Qadhdhafi

AB281514 Paris AFP in French 1439 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 28 Aug (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre today reasserted his desire to negotiate with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi "without making" territorial "concessions." "Chad aspires to peace. When one seeks peace, one accepts the conditions that can bring it about," Mr Habre said at a news conference. "Libya has been attacking us for almost one generation. (...) In spite of this, we are open to any initiative within the framework of, for example, the OAU or the UN, or bilateral meetings between Chad and France," the Chadian president added.

"However, we are not prepared to accept all compromises: Our territory is our territory. We do not intend to trade our territory for peace. (...) Peace must be achieved with respect for the dignity and independence of one another," he asserted. In reply to a question on relations between France and Chad, Mr Habre stated: "There is a system of cooperation between France and Chad which has proved effective. There have been differences but there are no clouds in the relationship between Chad and France."

Goukouni Said in Libya for Talks With Al-Qadhdhafi

AB281810 Paris AFP in French 1553 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Paris, 28 Aug (AFP) — Goukouni Oueddei, former president of the Chadian National Union Government (former GUNT), is currently in Tripoli. This was claimed in Paris by Chadian circles close to the opposition on the evening of 28 August. The presence of Goukouni in Libya, where he is expected to meet Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, could indicate, these circles believe, a "certain turn" in his relations with Libya, and could upset the national reconciliation process. [passage omitted]

Neo-GUNT Minister Offers Reaction to Conflict

LD292242 Paris International Service in French 2030 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Excerpts] There is no doubt that the Libyan flag is flying over Aozou. Ndjamena has been denying the news for a long time, but at the Chadian Embassy in Paris an eloquent formula was used this evening. The embassy stated: Have faith in the FANT, which will face all challenges. [passage omitted]

The Chadian opposition for its part cannot remain indifferent to these latest events which seem to be a setback for Hissein Habre. They are particularly interesting for Goukouni Oueddei, who we know has returned to Libya. The GUNT leader went to Tripoli but he immediately traveled to Sebha in southern Libya. The Neo-GUNT of Acheikh Ibn Oumar has also reacted to these events during its meeting in Ouagadougou. Here is Stephen Smith, our special correspondent in Burkina Faso, on the reaction of the Chadian opposition:

[Smith] On behalf of the GUNT — that is, the faction loyal to Goukouni Oueddei — Minister of Information (Ibrahim Alla) criticized the waste of further human lives in the struggle to control the Aozou Strip, human lives that according to him could have been spared. He recalled the resolution of the last OAU summit that asked the two parties not to resort to any bellicose act. (Ibrahim Alla) expressed the hope that the various diplomatic moves now under way could halt military escalation and reestablish the authority of the OAU ad hoc committee charged with resolving the border dispute through peaceful means.

As for the GUNT, which has been meeting in the Burkinabe capital for a week now and whose conference will end next Monday [31 August], it has adopted a cautious stand until the end of its session. This is what was explained by the Neo-GUNT minister of information, (Kilero Gadinga). We must recall the recent statements of Acheikh Ibn Oumar, who stressed the risks run by Hissein Habre in his reconquest of the Aozou Strip. Although affirming without ambiguity Chadian rights over this disputed territory, the president of the Neo-GUNT noted that military control over all national territory should not set aside a political solution of the problems. This is a criticism that is quite embarrassing in light of events.

Bardai Radio on Aozou Fighting, French Role

AB302051 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Must the Chad-Libya border issue be used as a cover for Chad's domestic problems? Since 8 August, when fighting broke out in the Chad-Libya border region, all the searchlights have been focused on that area, thus minimizing, in the world's opinion, the 20-year national crisis. There is no proof that a real, objective solution has been found to that crisis. The national reconciliation process, which recently generated some hope in Algiers, has now remained deadlocked for several weeks. This is due to Ndjamena's refusal to accept some minimal conditions.

We shall return to this point, but in the meantime, there is one question that must be asked: Who brought about the worsening of the military situation in the disputed Aozou Strip? Here is the answer to that question: [Words indistinct] France, which has, however, assisted the Ndjamena regime militarily and has maintained a military force known as the Sparrowhawk contingent on Chadian territory. France has also officially disapproved of Ndjamena's (?forceful) action to solve the Aozou border conflict militarily. In fact, the French Government has suggested that the issue be referred to the International Court of Justice at The Hague, which has been rejected by Ndjamena. So, for several days now, bullets have been flying in the disputed area, with all the consequences this could have for relations between two

brotherly and neighboring states, and for two peoples bound by history and blood relationships.

Since responsibility for provoking the battles in the extreme north of the country has been established, there is still one issue that continues to puzzle world opinion: namely, the attitude of France. In the diplomatic sphere, France has supported the peaceful settlement of the border conflict, thus dissociating itself from the initiative taken by the Ndjamena regime to attack the Aozou Strip. But, in practice, the French Government, through its military presence in Chad, is involved in the matter one way or another. Since France protects the Ndjamena regime militarily, it is its duty to do all it can to encourage moderation on the part of the Hissein Habre administration.

For Chadians, who are generally opposed to the Hissein Habre administration, the Aozou border dispute is not new. It was officially brought to the attention of the OAU in 1977 in Libreville. But Chadians (?opposed) to the Ndjamena regime wish for an amicable settlement of this problem, preferably through pan-African diplomacy and African wisdom. Elsewhere, an ad hoc committee has been set up and its mandate has just been renewed at the recent OAU summit in Addis Ababa. Consequently, there was no need to anticipate the conclusions of that committee, which has been upgraded to the level of heads of state, and, unfortunately, to have recourse to the use of force. So observers have asked themselves this question: Why was this fighting in the extreme north provoked? There is one point on which everyone agrees: The bloody events that are taking place in the Chad-Libya border region coincide with the deadlock in the national reconciliation process undertaken in Algiers.

Hissein Habre, faithful to [words indistinct] and his temper, wants to distract world opinion by turning people's attention in another direction. Does he also want to cover up the serious internal tensions within his regime and, in particular, the tension between himself and the people of [words indistinct]. Several observers today believe that by attacking Aozou, he wanted to distract people's attention. However, the use of military means to solve the problem does not seem to have support in African and international circles. Several African states, including those close to Ndjamena, have deplored the return of violence.

In the latest development, we learned that a large-scale diplomatic offensive has been launched on the African Continent to stop the fighting. As far as we Chadians are concerned, [words indistinct] political with Ndjamena, one thing is certain: Whatever the outcome of the military confrontation on the northern border, the internal problem remains and has not been solved. And it is now [words indistinct] the recent cabinent reshuffle carried out by Hissein that will bring peace and stability to Chad. Instead, we have reason to fear an aggravation of the internal problem along with the intensification of the border conflict.

Naval Facilities Reportedly Granted to West

NC311216 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Aug 87 p 2

[Text] Cairo — Informed diplomatic sources in Cairo have asserted that the United States, France, and Britain have asked Egypt to provide naval facilities to their ships, minesweepers, and aircraft carriers traversing the Suez Canal en route to the Gulf to sweep for mines and protect oil tankers.

The sources add that Egypt has agreed to this request, in accordance with its decision to support Iraq in its present position and to seek stability in the Gulf and protect Gulf states. However, Egypt refused to allow any naval forces involved in the *Bright Star* maneuvers on 15 August from the aircraft carrier *Saratoga*, the cruiser *Virginia*, or three other warships to remain in Egypt.

Al-Sharq Al-Awsat has also learned that Egypt recently accepted an Iraqi Government request for ammunition and military equipment supplied from the Egyptian Armed Forces strategic reserves while Egyptian military plants double their output to replace the equipment given to Iraq. The Egyptians agreed to this request in view of the [Iraqi] shortage of military equipment and some sources'delay in supplying Iraq with ammunition.

USSR's Vorontsov To Bring Message to Mubarak 4 Sep

NC292102 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2050 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 29 Aug (MENA) — Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuriy Vorontsov will arrive in Cairo on 4 September at the head of a delegation for a visit of several days. During his stay he will hold talks with Egyptian officials on issues of common concern and topics pertaining to bilateral relations and cooperation. Certain foreign diplomatic sources in Cairo said today that Vorontsov will bring a message from the Soviet leadership to President Husni Mubarak, officially inviting him to visit Moscow. The Soviet official will be accompanied by a technical delegation which will inspect High Dam repairs and discuss the possibility of Soviet participation in modernizing Egyptian textile factories.

Foreign Ministry Source on Arab Ministers Meeting

JN301444 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 27 Aug 87 p 1

[By Muhammad Isma'il]

[Text] A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has described the results of the Arab foreign ministers meeting in Tunis as being below the level expected. He said the results should have been more decisive.

In an exclusive statement to *Al-Jumhuriyah*, the source expressed the hope that Arab brothers will appreciate the situation through which the Arab world is passing and agree on a summit to tackle the present circumstances and challenges facing the Arab nation.

Al-Janzuri to Amman for Joint Company Meetings

NC281101 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 28 Aug (MENA) — Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, and his accompanying delegation departed from Cairo for Amman this morning to attend the first meeting of the Constituent Assembly of the Egyptian-Jordanian Holding Company. The capital assets of the holding company totals 50 million pounds [as received].

Prior to his departure, Dr al-Janzuri stated that the Egyptian-Jordanian Company will be involved in various activities. He said that it will create other companies and will be run according to the protocol signed by both countries. He noted that the eight-member board of directors will include four Egyptians appointed by a ministerial decree. [passage omitted]

Returns, Comments on Talks

NC301603 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 30 Aug (MENA) — Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, returned to Cairo from Amman this afternoon following a 2-day visit to Jordan. While there, Dr al-Janzuri was received by King Husayn of Jordan and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. He also held talks with the Jordanian ministers of planning and supply.

In an arrival statement, Dr al-Janzuri recalled that the establishment of the Egyptian-Jordanian Holding Company for investment and development, with capital assets of $50 million, had been announced during his visit. The company's activities will include fishing, tourism, and the production of seeds and meat. He expressed his hope that the new company would truly reflect the strong relations between Egypt and Jordan.

Maltese Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks

NC290633 Cairo MENA in English 0615 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, Aug 29 (MENA) — The Maltese foreign minister arrived here this morning on an official two-day visit to Egypt for talks with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, on bilateral relations, issues of common interest, the Non-alignment Movement and the latest developments in the Mideast.

Holds Talks With Al-Majid

NC301402 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, held a round of talks with the Maltese foreign minister today. In a statement after the talks, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that issues related to security in the Mediterranean region had been discussed during the session. This topic will be discussed further at a meeting the Mediterranean nonaligned countries will hold on the periphery of the upcoming UN General Assembly session scheduled for the end of September, he added.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid pointed out that Egyptian-Maltese relations also had been discussed. He described these relations as good. He disclosed that an agreement was signed at the meeting extending for an additional 3 years the current policy exempting both countries' nationals from obtaining entry visas.

It also was agreed to increase the volume of trade and to conclude barter deals between the two countries, he added. Dr 'Abd al-Majid emphasized that the Maltese foreign minister's declaration that a resident ambassador will be appointed in Cairo will promote cooperation between the two countries.

The Maltese foreign minister described the talks as fruitful and friendly, noting that the views of both sides had been similar on most of the topics under discussion.

Confers With Prime Minister

NC302027 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1928 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 30 Aug (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi received Maltese Foreign Minister Vincent Tabone at his office this evening. The Maltese foreign minister is currently visiting Cairo.

During the meeting, the two officials reviewed the developments in the Middle East and the Gulf region. They also discussed the means to strengthen Egyptian-Maltese relations, especially in the commercial and economic fields.

The meeting was attended by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Mubarak Receives Tabone

NC310848 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Maltese Foreign Minister Vincent Tabone this morning here in Cairo.

Israeli Request for Currency Said Turned Down

NC281104 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 Aug 87 p 2

[Text] Cairo, *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* office — *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* has learned that Egypt rejected Israel's request to permit the exchange of the Israeli shekel in Egyptian banks similar to other currencies currently exchanged in Egypt's new money market, provided that the Egyptian pound is also exchangeable in Israeli banks.

According to the Israeli request, the shekels were to be used for paying airfares for Egyptians visiting Israel, for official delegations, and for the expenses of the Egyptian Embassy. The same conditions were to exist for the Israeli banks' proceeds of Egyptian pounds. The request also proposed settling trade and financial transactions in either country's currency.

In addition, the Egyptian investment authority turned down an Israeli investment company's request for permission to construct greenhouses.

Prosecution Official Says Groups Seek Iranian Ties

NC292046 Cairo MENA in English 1940 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, Aug 29 (MENA) — Egyptian extremist religious groups are, according to a high-placed prosecution official, trying to establish channels of contact with the Iranian revolution, which is supporting their inclination to violence.

The extremist religious group, said Counsellor Raja'i al-'Arabi, chief prosecutor of the State Security Prosecution, in statements he made, are looking up to the Iranian revolution as a model to be copied.

Al-'Arabi said the extremist groups used young men suffering from difficult social and economic conditions to participate in committing acts of violence after having them instructed to reject all the positions and circumstances around.

"Towards this end," he said "they exploit their social circumstances, which are represented in the (?housing) shortage, (?questions pertaining to) appointment of graduates and other issues of the [word indistinct] concerning the present (?conditions) of youngmen."

[Passage indistinct] religion to explain the points of departure in the approach and ideas of these groups.

He said the democratic dialogue with these groups [passage indistinct].

Counsellor Raja'i al-'Arabi, chief prosecutor of the State Security Prosecution, [words indistinct] after the [words indistinct] of the late President Anwar al-Sadat, [passage indistinct].

"However, its failure was proved," he said. "Accordingly, there is no way but to have Muslim [word indistinct] themselves initiate this dialogue with them," he said. Al-'Arabi, discrediting violence as a means to make these youngmen give up the extremist ideology they are upholding, said it would make them grow more extremist.

Commentary Urges Measures Against Syria, Libya

NC291413 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Commentary by 'Atif al-Ghamri: "Iran Rejects Arab Foreign Ministers' Resolutions in Tunis"]

[Excerpts] The massive influx of arms into Iran has encouraged that country to reject all calls for negotiations to end its war with Iraq. Iran's penetration into the heart of the Arab world has also encouraged this policy of insisting on war until the end. Iran has penetrated the heart of the Arab world through two countries which have broken away from Arab solidarity and aligned themselves against the security and safety of the Arab nation. These

two countries, Libya and Syria, have declared that they maintain relations of strategic alliance with Iran.

The Arab world can confront the Iranian danger through adherence to the joint defense pact, which obligates all of them to stand beside Iraq. The Arab states can also confront Iran by taking a unanimous stand against it. However, the Syrian and Libyan relationship with Iran frustrated any attempt to adopt such a stand at the recent Arab foreign ministers meeting in Tunis. [passage omitted]

The Arab states whose foreign ministers met in Tunis should not have succumbed to pressure by these two Arab states because they are aware of the alliances between these two states and Iran. They are declared relations, not a secret to anyone. Nor are they confined to the political sphere; large-scale cooperation exists on the Iranian battlefront with the rest of the Arab world.

The Arab states should have adopted a decisive and deterrent stand against these two Arab states, not only against Iran. In the absence of such a stand the Arab world, while facing the dangers confronting it, will continue to suffer blows from within its ranks, without even asking those inflicting the blows to stop.

Interior Ministry Statement on Suspect's Death

NC281351 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1256 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Statement issued by the Interior Ministry on 28 August]

[Text] In the course of the Interior Ministry's efforts to identify the perpetrators of an attempted assassination of Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il, former deputy prime minister and interior minister, investigating departments located the hideout of suspect Muhammad Kazim 'Abd al-Qawi, a house situated in the fields of Santaris village, Ashmun District, Al-Minufiyah Governorate.

A force led by Major General Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Musa, assistant interior minister and director of the Public Security Department, went to this village at dawn today and surrounded the house in an attempt to arrest the suspect. But he opened fire with an automatic weapon on the police force, which returned the fire, killing 'Abd al- Qawi. The weapon used by the suspect, an automatic rifle, and two magazines, one of which was loaded with six bullets, were seized. One of the conscripts was wounded in the clash. The prosecutor is investigating the incident.

Further on Suspect's Death

NC281304 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1235 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 28 Aug (MENA) — MENA has learned that Muhammad Kazim 'Abd al-Qawi, the main suspect in the attack on the house of former Interior Minister Major General al-Nabawi Isma'il, was killed in an exchange of fire with a group of security men today.

The suspect was hiding in the home of a teacher, who is believed to be a member of extremist groups, in the village of Santaris, Al-Minufiyah Governorate. Acting upon this information, a group of security men surrounded the house. The suspect opened fire, but was killed instantly when the security men returned the fire.

3 Suspects Still Sought

NC281442 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 28 Aug (MENA) — Main suspect Muhammad Kazim 'Abd al-Qawi was one of four people who attacked the home of former Interior Minister al-Nabawi Isma'il on 13 August and who opened fire on policemen in Al-Kharqaniyah. The four belonged to an extremist religious group known as "Those Saved From Fire" [Al-Najun Min al-nar].

'Abd al-Qawi was born in Rawd al-Faraj in Cairo on 27 May 1961. He worked as a heavy equipment operator in sewage projects. He was a resident of Rawd al-Faraj and had another place of residence in Imbabah. In his movements he used a false identity card in the name of Lutfi Ahmad Abu al'Aynayn.

Following the attack on Al-Nabawi Isma'il's home, the security forces identified four suspects, not three, as had been announced after the incident. [passage omitted]

The Interior Ministry has offered a reward to anyone who can provide information leading to the arrest of the suspects. The ministry already has in its possession new and important information and recent photos of the suspects.

Hideouts of Suspects Located

NC292143 Cairo MENA in English 2125 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, Aug 29 (MENA) — The whereabouts of two of the defendants involved in the attempted assassination of Major-General al-Nabawi Isma'il, former interior minister, have, according to an Interior Ministry official source, been located.

"Information confirms that defendant Yusri 'Abd al-Mun'im is in Kafr Hejazi area of Imbabah, part of greater Cairo, whereas defendant 'Abd al-Musa 'Atiyyah is hiding in a village of Al-Qalyubiyah Governorate, in the delta of Egypt," the source said in a statement to MENA tonight.

"The arrest of these two defendants is becoming imminent. The security forces are laying several ambushes at present to arrest them," the source said.

No Foreign Link Found 'Yet'

NC292007 Cairo MENA in English 1955 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, Aug 29 (MENA) — No connection has been proved yet between the members of the organization, which carried out the attempted assassination of Major-General al-Nabawi Isma'il, former interior minister, and any foreign bodies, said an interior ministry official source.

"The security agencies are still questioning Dr Isma'il 'Abd al-Hamid, pharmacy faculty [word indistinct] at whose house in

the delta village of Santaris the principal defendant, Muhammad Kazim, (who was shot dead in a gun battle with the police), was (?hiding), the source said.

"No new case developments have occurred, the prosecution [passage indistinct].

Man Detained

NC291137 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1114 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 29 Aug (MENA) — Security forces today arrested pharmacist 'Abd al-Hamid Isma'il, in whose house Muhammad Kazim 'Abd al-Qawi, a suspect in the Al-Nabawi Isma'il case, was hiding. 'Abd al-Qawi was killed yesterday in a shootout with police forces in Santaris Village in Ashmun.

'Abd al-Hamid Isma'il is now being questioned by the security services to determine his connection with the group "Those Saved From Fire" and whether he was an active party or an accomplice in the group's activities and in some of the recent incidents.

A wide-scale manhunt of another suspect, Yusri 'Abd al-Mun'im, is also under way. 'Abd al-Mun'im is currently believed to be in hiding in the Al-Jizah, Al-Qalyubiyah, or Al-Minufiyah Governorates.

Suspect Arrested

NC302108 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2045 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 30 Aug (MENA) — At 2100 today, security forces arrested Yusri Abd al-Munim Ali, a suspect in the attack on Major General Muhammad al-Nabawi Ismai'l, former deputy prime minister and interior minister.

Yusri 'Abd al-Munim Ali is believed to be a member of the terrorist group that was led by Muhammad Kazim 'Abd al-Qawi, who was killed in a clash with security forces last Friday.

Yusri 'Abd al-Munim Ali was arrested after the security forces had surrounded his hideout in an area near Cairo. No bullets were fired as the suspect was certain that he was surrounded on all sides.

A pistol was found with the suspect. After comparing the pistols serial number, it transpired that it belonged to policeman Hamadah Salamah Hamad, who was killed in the Al-Kharaqaniyah incident when an attempt was made to arrest the four suspects who attacked Major General al-Nabawi Ismail.

The security organs continue to pursue the remaining two fugitive suspects; namely, Majdi al-Safti and Adil Musa, who are expected to be arrested very soon.

It is worth noting that the security forces announced yesterday that they were surrounding the fugitive suspects preparatory to arresting them.

Papers Report Fifth Suspect

NC310735 Cairo MENA in English 0704 GMT 31 Aug 87

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Cairo, Aug. 31 (MENA) — [passage omitted] The papers report that immediately on the arrest of Yusri 'Abd al-Munim Nawfal yesterday, state security investigation authorities began questioning him to find out the real proportions of the extremist religious group he belongs to which was a splinter from the Al-Jihad Organization. The group which styled itself as "The Survivors From Hell" was the same group which made attempts on the lives of former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha, *Al-Musawwar* magazine editor in-chief Makram Muhammad Ahmad and lately one-time Interior Minister Al-Nabawi Ismai'l. [passage omitted]

Both *Al-Jumhuriyah* and *Al-Ahram* highlight in their top billing and leading front-page stories that a fifth suspect in the terrorist ring appeared when criminal laboratory experts picked up a fresh set of finger prints that had never come up in the investigation into the three cases of the attempts on Abu Basha. Makram Muhammad Ahmad and Al- Nabawi Ismai'l.

Al-Akhbar reports news it obtained at an early hour this morning indicating that Nawfal, the suspect apprehended yesterday, confessed to the police that he had taken part in all three assassination attempts. [passage omitted]

Suspect Admits Role

NC310817 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0713 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 31 Aug (MENA) — Suspect Yusri' Abd al-Munim Ali, the second member of a terrorist group led by Muhammad Kazim 'Abd al-Qawi, has confessed to participating in unsuccessful assassination attempts against former Interior Ministers Hasan Abu Basha and Al-Nabawi Ismai'l and journalists Muhammad Makram Ahmad.

The suspect confirmed that he was driving the Datsun pickup truck from which the suspects opened fire on Abu Basha in May. The suspect said that his colleague Kazim shot Abu Basha.

In confessions published by *Al-Akhbar* today, the suspect said he was hit in the neck by a bullet fired by Abu Basha's guards. He added that suspect Majdi al-Safti treated his wound.

Security authorities arrested Abd al-Munim at his hideout last night.

'Abd al-Munim said Dr Majdi al-Safti was driving his private car behind the pickup truck during the attempt on Abu Basha's life. This car was to be used for their escape and to obstruct any attempt at pursuit or arrest.

The suspect added that the perpetrators later went to a rural area in Al-Jizah, where they left the car, taking with them the weapons used in the attack. The suspect also confessed to participating in the shooting of journalists Makram Muhammad

Ahmad in Bab al-Luq [in Cairo] while the latter was driving his Mercedes.

'Abd al-Munim said he was driving the vehicle from which suspect Kazim opened fire at Muhammad Ahmad, adding that this vehicle was the same one used in the attack on Al-Nabawi Ismai'l. They had stolen the car on Easter Monday from a parking place in front of the zoo. They did not change its dark blue color, but fitted it with forged license plates which they had stolen.

In his confession suspect Abd al-Munim said that they later painted the car light blue, before the attempted assasination of Al-Nabawi Ismail. The suspect, admitted that he was the one who fired on the house of Major General Al-Nabawi Ismai'l while suspect Kazim drove. Dr al-Safti was with them in the car. The suspect admitted that he, Kazim, Majdi, and Adil [Musa, fourth suspect] shot at policemen trying to arrest them in the Al-kharaqaniyah village 2 weeks ago.

Suspect Yusri said that he had been moving between a number of directorates in the republic since his flight from Al-Kharaqaniyah, until he met with suspect Kazim in the home of the pharmacist [Al-Safti] in Santaris in Al-Munufiyah Governorate. He added that he left the house before the arrival of the police and headed for Al-Jizah to make sure that his wife, Kazim's sister, and Kazim's wife were all right. When he came back he found the police there and tried to escape before they became aware of his presence. However, a number of detectives closed in, and he was caught last evening.

In another development, an Interior Ministry official has asserted that all weapons used by the suspects have been found. The source added that interrogations of this suspect and some members of the organization could shed light on other incidents which are being investigated and will be reported on later.

Victory Against 'Agent' Habre in Aozou Reported

Prisoners Held; Arms Captured

LD291216 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Aozou, 29 August (JANA) — In a dispatch from Aozou, a JANA correspondent reports that modern U.S. and French arms were destroyed during the mission carried out by the Libyan Arab Armed forces yesterday morning, during which they marched on the village of Aozou and successfully expelled and annihilated the agent Habre cliques.

According to the correspondent, the arms destroyed included laser operated equipment used for pinpointing targets as well as French Cascavel vehicles, which are used for reconnaissance and are equipped with 90-mm guns and a 57.62-caliber machinegun, in addition to troop transporters, jeeps, U.S. reconnaissance equipment, and Egyptian arms and ammunition.

The JANA correspondent also reports that the bodies of those killed and the burned corpses of the agent Habre bands remain as a testimony to the enormity of the losses suffered by the vanquished enemy forces.

The correspondent also said that those who escaped annihilation were now either prisoners or roaming astray in Tibesti.

'Agents' Pursued Into Chad

LD291250 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Aug (JANA) — The General Command of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces has issued the following statement:

Beginning this morning, our Air Force is directing destructive blows against the collapsing and scattered remnants of the fleeing agents, and pursued them into Chadian territory with the aim of aborting and annihilating them.

Habre Announces Surrender

LD291921 Tripoli JANA in English 1817 GMT 29 Aug 87

["Puppet Habre Surrenders" — JANA headline]

[Text] Paris, Hannibal [August] 29, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Puppet Habre announced his surrender after the annihilation of his bandits in the Libyan Arab village of Aozou yesterday as he expressed, in an interview conducted with him on French television, readiness to accept mediation by the OAU or any other mediation. He said I am now ready to accept all kinds of African or international mediation.

Puppet Habre avoided in this interview to talk on the military situation of his bandits and repeated in the interview which was released by *Reuters* that he will now accept all mediation.

France's Giraud Acknowledges Defeat

LD291933 Tripoli JANA in English 1819 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Paris, Hannibal [August] 29, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The French Defence Minister Andre Giraud today acknowledged through the radio of Luxembourg today the defeat of the forces of puppet Habre and the recapture of the village of Aozou by the Libyans.

Giraud pointed out that puppet Habre went too far in imagining that he was able to confront the Libyan forces in Aozou.

Armed Forces Issue Communique

LD292140 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2113 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Communique issued by the Libyan Arab Armed Forces General Command; date and place not given]

[Text] As a result of the march on Aozou and the dislodging of the remnants of the agents of imperialism, the following results were achieved:

1. The death toll in the enemy ranks is 600 and the number of injured is 877, in addition to a number of prisoners.

2. The quantity of enemy weapons seized is as follows: 1000 French-made Milan missiles; 40 14.5-mm machineguns mounted on vehicles; 20 106-mm guns mounted on jeeps: 20 rocket launchers; 60 general purpose machineguns; 200 anti-tank weapons of various types; and 200 U.S. made Redeye missiles.

3. The number of mechanized vehicles captured is as follows: 25 Libra vehicles; 6 French-made armored vehicles; 20 trucks of various types; 80 Toyota cruiser vehicles, in addition to a number of antitank and anti-aircraft ammunition which is being counted; plus many light and medium weapons and other mechanized vehicles. Over 40 other mechanized vehicles were also destroyed. The enemy left large quantities of fuel and supplies behind them.

Eternity to our martyrs and glory to the brave heroes. Forward, the revolutionary struggle continues. [Signed] The Libyan Arab Armed Forces General Command

Air Force Continues Raids

LD301214 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1145 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 30 Aug (JANA) — The General Command of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces issued the following statement:

For the 2d consecutive day, the Libyan Arab Air Force is continuing its raids inside the Chadian lands to eliminate the remnants of the fleeing agents.

Press Invited to Battle Scene
LD281948 Tripoli JANA in English 1835 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 28, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The People's Committee for Foreign Liaison issued the following statement:

The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah asserted several times to the Organisation of African Unity and to the head of the Security Council that the aggression on 8 Hannibal [August] was an aggression against its borders and has demanded that the international community, the Security Council and the Organisation of African Unity should necessarily bear their responsibilities.

Since the aggression has occurred, the bands that infiltrated into Aozou were seiged and leaflets were dropped to them demanding their surrender and reminded them that agent Habre, who claims to be a Muslim, has violated the sacredness of Islam... and the holy months and called upon the infiltrators to gather around Aozou mosque to be safe.

Great Jamahiriyah has offered a chance for peace, it has practiced self-control, supported efforts from the Organisation of African Unity and the efforts by its chairman and heads of the African states. By taking such a stance, it was confirming its respect and appreciation for the organisation, which resolutions were ridiculed by agent Habre.

The aggression against the Libyan territories 2 weeks after the summit resolution, was by itself an insult to the organisation and to the African heads.

Great Jamahiriyah's revision to the outcome of the tour the OAU chairman made has confirmed to it that agent Habre is pressing ahead in the road drawn for him by imperialism and the forces hostile to Africa's liberty and stability. Forces of agent Habre have killed and wiped out "Tabo" [not further identified] tribes in a racist, tribal, mean operation. He is insisting on carrying on with aggression against Jamahiriyah's borders.

Starting from Great Jamahiriyah's legitimate right in defending its borders and under such circumstances, there was nothing left for it but the use of force. Orders were given to the Libyan Arab Armed Forces to march on the Aozou village where enemy gangs were driven out and were wiped out in a battle that did not last more than 2 hours, thus aggression was defeated and destroyed.

Great Jamahiriyah calls on journalists to visit Aozou to witness the crimes committed by agent Habre against its civilian population of women, children and disabled people.

Foreign Media Arrive in Aozou
LD291956 Tripoli JANA in English 1820 GMT 29 Aug 87

[All media names as received]

[Text] Aozou, 29 Hannibal [August], *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Groups of journalists and correspondents of news agencies started pouring into the Libyan Arab village of Aozou since the announcement of the eviction of the bandits of puppet Habre yesterday to see the overwhelming triumph realised by our brave Armed Forces over the bandits of Habre and the crimes committed by Habre against the residents of the village of Aozou including women, children and elderly people.

The journalists toured the village and saw the effects of defeat suffered by the bandits of agent Habre where they saw the wreckage of military equipment used by them against innocent civilians.

The journalists touring the village of Aozou represent world news media including:

The French news agency. The French paper *Liberation*. Sigma for photography. The French paper *Le Point*. *Le Monde*. The BBC. American CBS. The *Associated Press*. The Maltese *Al-Hassib* magazine. The Italian news agency SANA. The Soviet news agency TASS. The Soviet news agency *Novosti*. The West German T.V. Channel One, ARD. The West German T.V. Third Channel. The Sudanese *Al-Anba'* newspaper. The *Arab Maghreb News Agency*. The paper of Moroccan *Al-Ittihad al-Ishtiraki*. The Moroccan paper *Nawal*. The Moroccan paper *Al-'Alam*. The British *Economist*. The Voice of Friendship and Solidarity. The Italian *Oudji*. Free Berlin Radio. The West German paper *Deferheit*.

The correspondent of the French radio and envoy of the French news agency (Rene Naba) asserted that journalists today toured for four hours the village of Aozou.

He said, in a report broadcast by the French radio French News, that he saw in Aozou and along tens of kilometres bodies of the bandits of puppet Habre burnt and the wreckage of destroyed vehicles as well as equipment and ammunition especially French antitank French missiles (Milan) and RDI American missiles and Egyptian ammunition.

The reporter added that journalists saw also a number of prisoners from the bandits of Habre.

The BBC radio reported that Western journalists in the village of Aozou confirmed that the Libyan Arab Armed Forces are in control of Aozou.

The journalists affirmed that they saw in the streets of the village French, American and Egyptian equipment.

Jabir Meets Aozou Soldiers
LD311112 Tripoli JANA in English 0910 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal 31, [31 August] (JANA) — Col. Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander-in-chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces met yesterday with the brave soldiers and officers who carried out the March operation on the Libyan Arab Aozou village last Friday.

Col. Jabir conveyed to these heroic people the greetings of the leader of the revolution and those of the masses of the Basic People's Congresses in great Al-Jamahiriyah.

The soldiers there chanted for the life of the great Al-Fatih Revolution and its leader stressing their fortitude to defend every inch of the soil of great Al-Jamahiriyah, apart from their firm faith in their great revolution.

Arab Envoys Briefed on Situation

LD302204 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison summoned Arab ambassadors accredited to the Great Jamahiriyah this evening. They were informed that orders had been issued to the Libyan Arab Armed Forces to march on Aozou and drive away the hordes of agent Habre after all peaceful means had been exhausted.

The committee made it clear that the OAU had already been briefed about the imperialist aggression against the Libyan Arab southern borders. The committee noted that the Great Jamahiriyah had quite recently shown restraint, and had given the opportunity for peace efforts and the mission of the organization chairman and of heads of state to succeed. But these efforts yielded nothing, and after examining the results of these contacts, it became clear to us that Habre was following the path laid out for him by the forces hostile to Africa's freedom and stability.

The committee explained that in light of these facts, the Libyan Arab Armed Forces eliminated the enemy hordes, cleared the Aozou region, and destroyed enemy positions there. The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison stressed to the Arab ambassadors that the source of danger was still threatening the security and safety of the Jamahiriyah due to the presence of French and U.S. imperialist forces in fraternal Chad. This imperialist presence will fuel war between Chadian brothers, and the situation in Chad will be unstable as long as French and U.S. forces occupy Chadian territory.

The People's Committee also underlined the need for French and U.S. forces to withdraw from Chad, and to give the sons of this country a chance to resolve their own problems, with the OAU assistance. The committee told the Arab ambassadors that the Great Jamahiriyah does not have expansionist ambitions, but under no circumstances will it accept the security of its borders to be open to danger.

Armed Forces Halt Bombing

LD311303 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] The General Command of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces has issued the following communique: As of this evening, 31 August, air raids inside Chadian territory will be suspended on the occasion of the anniversary of the great Al-Fatih revolution. However, reconnaissance flights and raids will be resumed if it appears that the other side will benefit militarily from this (?decision) or if it adopts its usual opportunist attitude, which demonstrates its lack of morals and non-respect for charters and promises made.

[Signed] The General Command of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces.

Commentary Praises Aozou Victory

LD290212 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The great Fatih revolution, which has faced great challenges since its beginning in 1969, is capable of facing more challenges and achieving victory. That is a fact that sometimes escapes the enemies of the revolution, because they live under the illusion of the age of force, arrogance, and conspiracy; a conspiracy that has continued throughout the 18 years of the great Fatih revolution's march. [passage omitted]

The United States did not succeed in its attacks on the people of the Great Jamahiriyah from the north, and did not succeed in its repeated attacks to stop the revolutionary tide which has been created by the great Fatih revolution in the world. It found in Habre's gang — France's old agent who is practicing terrorism everywhere — a fresh situation in which it could rely on new aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah. While hiding behind Habre's gangs, it became involved in aggression against the southern part of the Great Jamahiriyah when it pushed these gangs to attack the Libyan Arab town of Aozou. It tried to impose a de facto policy on the Great Jamahiriyah even though the OAU had adopted a resolution in its recent meeting stipulating that African problems would be resolved within the OAU itself.

Because imperialism is imperialism, agents are agents, and the United States has not learned the lesson well, it believed that by supporting Habre's gangs it could again curb the activities and aspirations of the revolution and the rallying of the world's peoples around it.

The Great Jamahiriyah has repeatedly announced that it (?wants) peace, especially because its principles stipulate that peace and freedom should prevail throughout the world in the context of humnitarian relations woven from the priciples of the third universal theory which brings glad tidings of freedom and liberation.

When all peace efforts were exhausted, and despite repeated warnings, the great Fatih revolution considered it necessary, on the basis of defending its rights, to rout the aggression and face the challenge which was (?made) by the agents of imperialism backed by the power of arms. The day of 28 August 1987 was another one of the days of lofty victories at the forefront and another step in the great Fatih revolution's march.

The sons of the great Fatih revolution from the Libyan Arab Armed Forces marched toward the enemy destroying the mentality of arrogance, domination, and enslavement and were able in no more than 2 hours to rout the aggression, annihilate the aggressors, and turn them on their heels. The aggressors were burdened with [word indistinct] defeat and shame for themselves and their imperialist masters after they had been given another lesson on the great Fatih revolution's struggle.

The great Aozou victory took place on the road of constant and continuing victories. This lofty victory, which comes at a time when the Arab people in general and the Libyan Arab people in particular, are marking the 18th anniversary of the start of the great Fatih revolution, is a victory that will be added to the record of the world revolutionary forces — forces of the revolution, liberation, and peace movements — which constitute the international center. It reaffirms that the will of people is bound to triumph no matter what quantities of arms, ammunition, fleets, and armies are amassed by the forces of injustice, evil, and aggression.

Today, the day of routing and defeating aggression on the Great Jamahiriyah from the south, in the Aozou region, is a triumph for all forces of revolution and freedom throughout the world as much as it is a triumph for the great Fatih revolution. A salute to all fighters for freedom in the world and those defending the homeland. A salute to the great Fatih's youths and the valiant soldiers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces which brought back to the homeland [words indistinct].

Frolinat Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Aozou Victory

LD291325 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1155 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Aug (JANA) — The Revolutionary Democratic Council of the Chadian National Liberation Front, Frolinat, expressed its great appreciation for the Libyan Arab Armed Forces' victory over the village of Aozou and the purging of the cliques of agent Habre.

In a cable to the brother commander of the revolution, Frolinat said that it was prepared to fight the forces of agent Habre — forces supported by imperialism — until they are crushed.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Arab African Union Head

LD301023 Tripoli JANA in English 0920 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 30, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The leader of the revolution received Abdelwahed al-Radhi [name as received], the general secretary of the Arab African Union.

Col Jabir Receives Palestinian Officials

LD261435 Tripoli JANA in English 0922 GMT 26 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [July] 26, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Col. Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander-in-chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces has received Messrs. Abu Musa [Sa'id Musaz Muragha], secretary-general of the Palestine National Liberation Movement (Fatah), Ahmed Jibril, secretary-general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (General Command) and 'Isam al-Qadi, secretary-general of the Organisation of the Vanguards of the Popular Liberation War (Al-Sa'iqah troops).

Statement Issued; Delegation Departs

LD262350 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 26 Aug 87

[Text] This evening Brothers Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], secretary of the National Liberation Movement, Fatah — the uprising; Ahmad Jibril, PFLP-General Command secretary general; and 'Isam al-Qadi, secretary general of the Popular Liberation Vanguard-Al-Sa'iqah forces, left Tripoli after concluding their visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

The brothers made statements to JANA before leaving Tripoli International Airport, in which they condemned the imperialist colonialist aggression against the southern borders of the Great Jamahiriyah. They stressed that this aggression — behind which stands the United States, Zionism, and their lackeys in the region — is the result of the firm principled stances of the great Al-Fatih revolution and its leadership toward the pan-Arab issues, with the Palestinian issue at their forefront. They expressed their confidence that the people of the Great Jamahiriyah are able to confront all conspiracies and schemes, and are able to defeat any aggression, no matter who is behind the plot.

INF's Al-Turabi on Formation of National Government

JN291655 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1456 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Aug (SUNA) — Dr Hasan 'Abdallah al-Turabi, secretary general of the Islamic National Front, said that the Front has accepted the idea of participating in a national government despite numerous reservations related to the country's interests. In a press conference he held today in which he reviewed the draft charter which the Front proposes as the basis for a national government, Al-Turabi said the coalition government's weakness might impose conditions on the country that may not be in its interest, as was the case in 1972 when foreign powers exploited the isolation of the former regime and imposed arrangements on the basis of which the war was halted.

Al-Turabi said the Front's condition for participating in the government is affirmation of the need to arrive at a written charter on the issues of politics, legislation, the economy, the south, security, national defense, foreign policy, and government structure. He said the Front believes the country's head of state should be a person who symbolizes the country's unity. Moreover, the chairman of the Constituent Assembly should be a figure who safeguards the independence of the legislative body from the executive one. He did not object to the prime minister being a party member provided he adheres to the national collective spirit. The Front's draft plan proposes that ministerial posts be allocated to the parties in proportion to their parliamentary representation. The number of ministries should be strictly defined, the financial status of all those occupying constitutional and executive positions should be stated, and new bodies should be established to run regional governments instead of placing the regions under the tyranny of governors. Al-Turabi also said there must be necessary measures prior to the establishment of a national government: the resignation or dismissal of all those occupying constitutional and executive positions both on the central and regional levels, to prevent the newly formed government from being a continuation of the current coalition; the state of emergency should be lifted; and the Constitutent Assembly should remain in open session.

Al-Turabi described the offers the Front received to participate in the government as being serious this time. He said the Al-Ummah Party, the Democratic Unionist Party, the southerners, and the Sudanese National Party gave the Front written concepts of the national government. He reiterated his belief that the national government is not the best option as far as implementing a policy is concerned. However, he affirmed that the Islamic Front's relations with the Al-Ummah and Democratic Unionist Parties — the other sides in the coalition — are at their best and enjoy trust and understanding. Al-Turabi was surprised at what was published about the refusal of the political alliance of southern Sudan to participate in any government in which the Front is represented. He said officials from the alliance met with the Front and offered it a plan to isolate the Al-Ummah Party.

Al-Turabi said the Front's concept of a national government means the participation of the Al-Ummah Party, the Democratic Unionist Party, the Islamic Front, the southerners, and perhaps the Sudanese National Party. He affirmed that the Islamic Front will not participate in any government in which the left wing participates, although the Al-Ummah Party indicated this option on several occasions because the executive body would be lost to necessary harmony. [sentence as received] The Front's secretary general added that the Al-Ummah Party's concept of alternative Islamic laws is very close to the Islamic Front's concept in contrast with the attorney general's plan. He said the Democratic Unionist Party's draft plan for the national government does not mention the alternative laws. He said: I think this was accidentally omitted. Concluding his statements Al-Turabi described the parties' plans on eliminating the effects of the May regime as political bargaining. He said the two coalition parties did not adopt any measures in this regard.

SPLA Radio Reports Recent Battle Claims

EA281621 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Excerpts] SPLA forces of Shakush Task Force Number Two under the direct command of Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Major Lual, deputy zonal commander of Central and Western Equatoria, and under combat command of Major Doao Manyok, combined with another unit of SPLA forces from the Soutern Bari Task Force under the command of Lieutenant (Hitler Lumeri), attacked Kajo Kaji town as well as the military garrison and overran the police station on 19 August 1987. A correspondent accompanying Shakush forces in Kajo Kaji says that the enemy forces were totally taken by surprise since the attack took place at night. [passage omitted]

Many enemy soldiers were killed and two Magirus trucks destroyed when the Hadid Battalion ambushed an enemy convoy on Lui-Lanya Road, on 3 August 1987. [passage omitted]

In another development, an enemy force was ambushed by the Hadid Battalion on Jambo-Rokon Road on 4 August 1987, in which an enemy company was destroyed and the rest ran in disarray. [passage omitted]

Rebels Raid Kapoeta Garrison

EA281634 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Excerpt] SPLA Forces of Commando Task Force and Muzmar Task Force under direct command of Captain (James Keleg Tong) and overall command of Lieutenant Colonel Gilario Modi Horinyang raided Kapoeta enemy garrison on 19 August 1987. In this raid the enemy suffered heavy damages in men and material among which seven enemy soldiers were killed, four of them in the enemy garrison headquarters and three in (Hilat Tarawa). [passage omitted]

INTER-GULF AFFAIRS

Gulf Countries Refuse U.S. Naval, Military Support

LD310915 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0747 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, 31 Aug (KUNA) — A high-ranking Arab diplomatic source has affirmed that the Arab Gulf countries refuse to provide any naval or air military facilities to the U.S. forces in their territories.

Quoting the source, which it did not name but described as "high level," the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Watan* said that the Zionist lobby is leading the biased information campaign against Kuwait with the intention of blackmail.

The source said that, through the Zionist lobby in the United States and the U.S. circles supporting them, Israel is trying to drive President Reagan into blackmailing the Arabs "to barter" what appears ostensibly to be U.S. support for the Arab position in the Gulf for an Arab response to the U.S. formula for solving the Middle East crisis.

The source affirmed that the U.S. interests in particular and Western interests in general — but not Arab interests — are what prompted the United States to embark on its current moves in the Arab Gulf with the support of naval units and minesweepers.

The source pointed out that the Arabs are aware of this "barter" which, if accepted, would amount to the U.S.-Israeli settlement of the Middle East problem being snuck in. It pointed out that several Arab countries have adopted rigorous positions toward the Israeli proposals for settlement which were conveyed by U.S. officials in the Arab capitals.

The newspaper also quotes Arab diplomats in Washington and New York as saying that the Arab positions have already been conveyed to the U.S. Administration, coupled with a warning concerning the dangers inherent in the continued U.S. response to the Israeli concept of the settlement.

The source quoted by *Al-Watan* pointed out that in view of this situation, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz decided to cancel the tour of the region announced last week by Israel.

The source said Israel believes that Shultz will "consecrate the barter in deed," but that the Arab rejection of the barter "pulled the rug out from under the feet of the U.S. secretary of state before he could walk on it into the Arab capitals concerned."

The Arab diplomat affirmed that it was because of this that the information campaign was resumed against Arab Gulf countries, particularly Kuwait, by some U.S. newspapers known to be controlled by the Zionist lobby.

Al-Watan also quoted a high-ranking Arab source as saying that in view of the U.S. plan, the Arab states find themselves faced with a new political responsibility. Arab-U.S. cooperation in the Gulf should not reach the point of enabling the United States to secure any military bases or facilities on the pretext of supporting the U.S. fleet's presence and its protection of the region.

The source said the GCC continues to adhere to the principles of self-security in the Gulf and freedom of international navigation in the Strait of Hormuz. The source additionally stated that if Iran decides to abandon its policy of escalating and expanding the war and to accept UN Security Council Resolution No 598 and halt the fighting, "matters would revert back to their normal course within the framework of an Arab-Iranian and not just an Iraqi-Iranian regional peace agreement."

The same source pointed out that the GCC member countries have individually and collectively "actually rejected" U.S. demands for military facilities at their ports and airports.

He said the Zionist lobby in the United States has been trying to exploit GCC Arab countries' firm stand to fan its campaign, under the guise of exposing the failure of U.S. policy in the Gulf, in an attempt to increase pressure on the Reagan administration and on the Arab countries.

The Arab diplomat affirmed that Israel has a firm political objective: to convince Washington that it, Israel, is the only ally that can be relied upon and should be bolstered in the Middle East.

The diplomat said that Arab and Western [as received] vigilance translates into a refusal by GCC member countries to grant military facilities and by Egypt and Jordan to retract their adherence to the idea of an international Middle Eastern peace conference, with Palestinian and Soviet participation, and "has additionally aborted the Zionist lobby's moves."

Iranian Gunboat Fires on Kuwaiti Vessel 31 Aug

LD311258 Kuwait KUNA in English 1231 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 31 (KUNA) — A Kuwaiti-registered container ship was Monday attacked by a speeding gunboat as the commercial vessel sailed between two ports of the United Arab Emirates, the ship's owners said.

The container ship, *Jabal 'Ali*, sustained damage after it came under rocket and machine-gun fire from the attacking gunboat, according to a statement by the Kuwait-based United Arab Shipping Company (UASC).

No one of *Jabal 'Ali*'s crew members was hurt in the attack which occurred at about 0400 UAE local time as the vessel was some seven sea miles off the Emirate of Umm al Qawayn during a routine voyage from Khawr Fakkan Port to the Emirate of Dubayy, the statement said.

The container ship later reached Al-Rashid Port in Dubayy by its own power and was expected to unload there in view of the damage it sustained, the owners said.

KUWAIT

UN's Perez de Cuellar on Tehran Embassy Seizure

LD282007 Kuwait KUNA in English 1759 GMT 28 AUG 87

[Text] United Nations, Aug 28 (KUNA) — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar strongly upholds the Vienna Convention on the immunity of diplomats and diplomatic buildings, his spokesman said Friday [28 August] in relation to the Kuwaiti Embassy still occupied in Tehran.

"The secretary-general is of the strong opinion that whatever the situation is, the Vienna Convention should be upheld at all times and in any circumstances," his spokesman said at the daily noon briefing.

Asked whether the secretary-general has discussed the subject of the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran with the Iranian officials he has been meeting with this week, the spokesman said: "I'll have to check but my feeling is that the secretary-general exercises his diplomacy and in this particular question it will not be public."

On August first, a mob of demonstrators, organised by elements of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards, stormed the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran and engaged in destructive acts contrary to civilised norms and in violation of international law.

Defense Ministry States Missile Fired 30 Aug

LD311204 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, 31 Aug (KUNA) — A responsible source at the Kuwaiti Ministry of Defense stated that radar detected an unidentified object in Kuwaiti skies yesterday evening.

The source told KUNA that because the object's identity and intentions could not be ascertained, a missile was fired at it. After firing the missile and following it on the radar screen, operators concluded that it was not an actual object but rather a natural phenomenon caused by humidity and atmospherics.

The Ministry of Defense wishes to reassure citizens that the Kuwaiti Armed Forces are alert and anxious to defend the precious homeland under the leadership of his highness the amir, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, and of his faithful heir apparent.

SAUDI ARABIA

Source Denies REUTER Report on Iran Relations

LD282141 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2030 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] Jeddah, 28 Aug (SPA) — An official source has stated to SPA that today, 28 August, *Reuter* carried a long news item that it attributed to an authorized Saudi official, who, it asserted, did not want his name to be made public. The news item concerned matters dealing with Saudi-Iranian relations.

The source added: Since what the agency carried quoting the alleged source is absolutely unfounded and incompatible with the Kingdom's clear and explicit manner in expressing its political stances and political orientations, this explanation is necessary.

The source concluded his statement: When the Kingdom wants to express itself on such matters, it is customary to announce this through a responsible source who will speak under his name and through its media organs without having to hide his name or position.

Jordanian Minister Al-Rifa'i Arrives 30 Aug

JN301122 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Jeddah — [Jordanian] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i arrived in Jeddah at 1200 today on a brief visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. During the visit, Al-Rifa'i will convey a message from His Majesty King Husayn to his brother, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, concerning the current situation in the Arab region and the fraternal relations between the two sisterly countries.

His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, led those who received the prime minister at King 'Abd al-'Aziz International Airport in Jeddah.

Al-Rifa'i departed Amman this morning. The deputy prime minister and a number of ministers saw him off at the airport.

Received by King Fahd

LD301225 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, received at his office at Al-Salam Palace this afternoon His Excellency Zayd al-Rifa'i, the Jordanian prime minister, who conveyed to the custodian of the two holy mosques a message from his brother, His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the foreign minister; and Muhammad Rasul al-Kilani, Jordan's ambassador to the Kingdom.

Departs 30 Aug

LD301748 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1605 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 30 Aug (SPA) — Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i departed King 'Abd al-'Aziz International Airport in Jeddah at 1645 today following his short several-hour visit . . to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

Tariq 'Aziz on Iran's 'Game of Procrastination'

JN291056 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Aug (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed that it is time the international community moved to the second stage of Security Council Resolution No 598, and that any procrastination in this is baseless. In a statement today to INA on current developments, particularly the ongoing deliberations in New York concerning the Iranian regime's stand on Resolution No 598, Tariq 'Aziz stated: We strongly caution against dealing with the Iranian game of procrastination and maneuvering. Those who insist on dealing with this game do not serve the issue of peace but rather prolong the war and encourage the Iranian regime to defy the international community's will, 'Aziz added.

'Aziz declared: We should emphasize an important point that some parties have attempted to shroud with ambiguity. The point is that some quarters have begun to consider Iran's possible agreement on a cease-fire as a crucial step in implementing the resolution. Iraq's explanation of the resolution is not like this at all, Tariq 'Aziz noted.

The foreign minister pointed out that Iraq does not consider Iran's acceptance only of the cease-fire to be an acceptance of the resolution. Consequently, Iraq will make no commitments. Accepting the resolution means accepting it in its entirety, which means Iran's readiness to implement all of it. 'Aziz commented: We recall that the first paragraph of the resolution includes not only a cease-fire but also an immediate withdrawal to internationally recognized borders.

Tariq 'Aziz emphasized that any Iranian agreement on a cease-fire that does not contain official and frank agreement on immediate withdrawal as well as on the remainder of the paragraphs — particularly the release and comprehensive exchange of prisoners — will not bind Iraq to anything. Either the resolution is implemented as a whole or the situation will remain as it is, 'Aziz added. He also noted that Iraq categorically refuses to deal with any attempt propagated by the Iranian regime and some quarters to divide the conflict.

Tariq 'Aziz affirmed that in the deliberations preceding the issuance of the Security Council resolution, the permanent members discussed giving the two parties a 30- to 40-day respite to define their clear, official stands on the resolution. Iraq communicated its clear, official stand to the UN secretary general 3 days after the resolution had been issued, he said. Tariq 'Aziz added that 40 days after Resolution No 598 was issued, we find that the Iranian regime is practicing the game of procrastination and maneuvering, stating: The Iranian regime is playing this game in New York in deliberations with the UN secretary general and with some Security Council members. It is also playing this game in some capitals. The Iraqi foreign minister additionally noted: In Tehran, however, the regime leaders state frankly that their primary cause is to continue the aggression. This is Iran's real stand.

Gulf Conflict Operations, Air Strikes Continue

Communique No 2,797 Issued

JN281622 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,797 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces have continued their heroic combat activities. The following is a roundup of these activities for last night and today:

1. Our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah engaged enemy units and engineering works opposite them. They killed five scoundrels and destroyed a vehicle, three various positions, and an ammunition dump.

2. An enemy patrol attempted to approach our units' positions in the II Army Corps central sector. Our units engaged it and forced it to flee after killing one of its soldiers and wounding several others. Eleswhere in the same sector, a vehicle, a light machinegun, and an observation post were destroyed.

3. Four ammunition dumps were detonated, a 60-mm mortar, two infantry positions, and an observation post were destroyed, and several sources of enemy fire were silenced in the I Army Corps northern sector.

4. Four various positions were destroyed, an ammunition dump was detonated, and fires were started in the enemy's positions in the VII Army Corps sector.

5. Using long-range artillery, the criminal enemy shelled residential areas in the valiant city of Basra, damaging civilian property.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 August 1987

Communique No 2,798 Issued

JN291257 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,798 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 29 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God be praised for His great support and assistance, for He is our best and most gracious supporter.

Brave Iraqis — both fighters and builders behind the frontlines — sons of our glorious Arab nation: Regional and international public opinion is aware of the obvious fact that it is the Iranian regime that sparked this war on 4 September 1980, motivated by its ambitions on our territory, its well-known old hatred against our people and nation, and its outdated designs to dominate our people and the peoples of the region. The merger of racist shu'ubist [anti-Arab] and Zionist tendencies in one ruler has led to this hostility against the Arab nation and the attempt to keep

it backward and prevent it from awakening to play its cultural role.

The Iranian rulers, more than others, are vying with one another in openly voicing these facts. Having failed in the past 7 years to achieve their objectives, they are now speaking openly in their political and propaganda media about these evil objectives and their insistence on war despite all the disasters that befell their country.

In view of such a stand, and on the basis of our legitimate rights, our heroic Air Force has, in the past few days, directed a series of strikes against economic targets connected with the war effort. On the basis of this right and in implementing our people's will, the aircraft of our Air Force today directed a series of destructive strikes against very important targets, some of which are more than 800 km from our international borders. At 1140 [0740 GMT], scores of our aircraft simultaneously carried out the following:

1. Our aircraft directed destructive strikes at Rakhsh Island, which is more than 830 km from our international border. The oil fields and oil installations on this island were struck and set on fire.

2. At the same time, several of our aircraft directed a destructive strike against Lavan Island in the Arab Gulf. The brave eagles hurled their bombs against the refining installations and docks, scoring precise hits, then left the damaged targets bursting with explosions. This island is about 790 km away from our international border.

3. At the same time, scores of our aircraft dealt devastating blows to oil installations and platforms on the Island of Farsi —which is more than 450 km away from our international border — and destroyed their targets.

After carrying out all these heroic missions, with the bravery and efficiency for which our hawks are known and with complete success, our aircraft returned safely to the homeland, in God's care and protection.

O citizens: With these blows, Iraq exercises its legitimate right to self-defense against the Iranian regime, which has continued aggression against our country and people with all means, ignoring Security Council Resolution No 598. This resolution expressed the international community's desire to achieve a comprehensive, durable peace. Iraq also exercises its legitimate right to deal equally with that aggressive, evil regime which, after the issuance of the Security Council resolution, continued its aggression against Iraq on land, at sea, and in the air. That regime continued its known lies and maneuvers to evade an official and frank acceptance of Resolution No 598 and not to implement it with goodwill, in contrast to Iraq's action. The Iranian regime deluded itself that, through these exposed methods, it can make gains and increase its oil exports to collect the necessary money to finance the machine of war and aggression. It believed that by rejecting the Security Council resolution it could (?avoid) the substance of the resolution and the will of the international community, which desires to achieve a comprehensive, durable peace.

On this day of victory, we affirm our concern for a comprehensive, durable peace, for the need to end this war, and for mobilizing the regional people's potentials and resources for the sake of prosperity and construction.

Long live our victorious leader, the builder of our civilization, the planner of these victories, and the one inspiring in our men the bravery and determination to achieve these victories — President Saddam Husayn. Blessed be our heroic Air Force — commanders, hawks, officers, and men — for these great deeds that represent the best and unique usage of the Air Force and that are considered a great feat by the Iraqi fighters to be recorded throughout history. Loftiness and glory for our great people and for our Armed Forces. Praise be to God for his victories.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 August 1987

Communique No 2,799 Issued

JN291809 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1615 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,799 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 29 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our courageous Armed Forces have continued their combat activities in defense of Iraq and its people. The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. Further to our Communique No 2,798 that was issued today, our heroic Air Force continued its valiant activities on the road to a great victory by smashing the pillars of aggression, striking at the vital interests of the regime of charlatans, and punishing them for their continued aggression against our people and for their continued refusal of peace calls. The following operations were carried out:

A. At 1650 [1250 GMT] today, our valiant hawks dealt an accurate, effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

B. Throughout the day, our aircraft carried out a series of destructive raids against the enemy's assembly positions and weapons emplacements on the battlefields, inflicting serious losses. After carrying out 127 combat mission, our aircraft returned safely and victoriously to the homeland, in God's care. Blessed be our Air Force men — commanders, hawks, officers, and other ranks.

2. The helicopter gunship knights carried out 60 combat missions today, killing a number of enemy personnel and destroying a number of its positions, weapons, and hardware. Later, the knights safely returned to base, praise be to God.

3. Our valiant units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah spotted two enemy formations, confronted them, and managed to kill six of the enemy, with the remainder fleeing. In other parts of the sector, seven infantry positions, two machineguns, and an enemy observation post were destroyed and an ammunition dump was detonated.

4. In the I Army Corps northern sector, an infantry position and an enemy observation post were destroyed and its occupants were killed, an enemy vehicle was burned and destroyed, and an ammunition dump was detonated. In another part of the sector, one of our patrols found an enemy RPK machinegun and a radio the enemy left during a previous battle.

5. An enemy soldier was killed, a vehicle was destroyed, and an ammunition dump was blown up in the II Army Corps central sector.

6. An enemy tank was destroyed on the V Army Corps front.

7. Using long-range artillery, the evil Khomeyniites shelled four villages in the Qal'at Dizah subdistrict. A woman was wounded as a result. The rancorous forces additionally shelled Basra's residential quarters.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 August 1987

Al-Basrah, N. Villages Shelled
JN300054 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0935 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Aug (INA) — The Iranian enemy continued to shell residential districts and civilian areas in Al-Basrah Governorate, in southern Iraq, with long-range artillery this morning.

Al-Basrah Governorate and four villages belonging to Qal'at Dizah, in northern Iraq, were also subjected to long-range Iranian artillery bombardment yesterday. A woman was injured and civilian properties were damaged.

Iranian Tanker Attacked 29 Aug
JN291935 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1848 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] London, 29 Aug (INA) — The British insurance company Lloyds announced today that Iraqi jet fighters struck an Iranian oil tanker. In a cable to the INA office in London today, the company stated that the Iranian tanker *Alvand* caught fire after it was bombed by Iraqi planes today.

Lloyds also pointed out that the Iranian tanker weighs 120,766 tonnes, is operated by the Iranian oil tanker company, and was built in 1974.

An Iraqi military spokesman announced this evening that Iraqi Air Force aircraft scored an accurate, effective hit on a maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1650 [1250 GMT] today.

Communique No 2,800 Issued
JN300901 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0827 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,800 isued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Praise be to God who elevates truth and awards His good worshipers. Citizens, if great Saddam Husayn speaks, Iraq speaks, and if he issues an order, there are brave men who implement the order as the great leader and you wish. In implementing the correct opinion based on the objective considerations represented by our great leader's speech yesterday — considerations expressing the interests of the people and the nation — our heroic Air Force carried out these two missions last night and at dawn today:

1. At 0126 last night [2126 GMT on 29 August], a destructive blow was dealt to the oil tanker holding area east of Khark Island.

2. At 0530 [0130 GMT] this morning, the air hawks cast their net over the Arab Gulf waters. They managed to track a very large maritime target and dealt it a direct and effective blow. After carrying out the two missions, our aircraft then returned safely to base, God be praised.

O citizens! In view of the continued acts of aggression against Iraq by Iran and its rejection of Security Council Resolution No 598 — a rejection that has become indisputably clear — and to safeguard Iraq's security and sovereignty, it is necessary to strike at the vital targets and supplies serving the aggressor regime's war effort. The heroic effort of our Air Force yesterday and today is the only response to those that have chosen war as a trade and a policy. These strikes are but a beginning of many blows. The rulers of Iran will realize that by their insistence on continuing the war they will bring their own end. They will realize that they are too weak to fight great Iraq with its principled stand based on right and justice.

Glory and pride to our heroic Air Force — its commanders, pilots, officers, and men who have been and will continue to be ready to serve the people and their leader. Praise be to God who champions us against the unjust.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 August 1987

Communique No 2,801 Issued
JN301101 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1000 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,801 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In an address to his great people and noble Arab nation yesterday, our God-supported, wise leader said that we will strike at them [the Iranians] and destroy all their economic means that give them the means of military aggression. The historic leadership embodies the honorable, good word associated with bold, heroic action. We Iraqis are motivated and urged to carry out great deeds by the correct instructions and obeyed orders stemming from the interests of the people and the nation — orders and instructions granted by the great Saddam Husayn's wisdom and clear vision.

Only a few hours after the leader's address, the men moved zealously to carry out their duties. After dealing a destructive

blow to the ships' holding area east of Khark Island last night and hunting a large maritime target at dawn today, our rapacious hawks returned to their enemy to deliver the painful Iraqi blows. At 1215 [0815 GMT] today, a number of our aircraft took off and flew deep inside Iran to carry out the following heroic missions:

1. Our rapacious hawks dealt a destructive blow to the power station in Tabriz, northern Iran, turning it into rubble.

2. At the same time, a number of our planes aircraft their missiles on the power plant in Hamadan, knocking this vital installation into pieces.

3. At the same time, other of our aircraft were firing their missiles into the satellite communications station in the Asadabad area to silence the voices of charlatanry and falsehood and throw stones of fire into the mouths of the liars. After carrying out all these missions, all our aircraft then returned safely to base, thanks be to God.

O zealous citizens! Those who triggered the war on 4 September 1980, who have continued aggression against our country for the past 7 years, who insist on aggression despite their heavy losses, and who rejected the Security Council resolution expressing the international community's will concerning the need to halt the war, continued their aggression and cheap buffoonery rather than seizing the opportunity to accept an honorable peace. Those criminals are only deterred by severe punishment, punishment which we are capable of. Today and every day, we will prove to them, as our leader ordered, that they will win only scandal and reap destruction. We will prove to them that Iraq will continue to be free and proud and that the acts of tyrants are mean.

May God bless you, men of our Air Force. You have embodied the will of Iraq. God be with you. God supports faithful fighters.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 August 1987

Communique No 2,802 Issued

JN301620 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1529 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,802 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Praise be to God, for He has enabled us to triumph over our enemies and turn their covert intentions against them and turned them into rubble. O zealous Iraqis, in response to the Iranian regime's intransigent, foolish stand on the call for peace unanimously endorsed by the international community, in view of this regime's insistence on continuing the war and the course of aggression, and in implementing our firm, legitimate right to defend our land and sovereignty by depriving the Iranian regime of all the means that it employs to continue the war, your Air Force aircraft resumed their heroic raids deep inside Iran this afternoon. The achieved the following tasks:

1. At 1545 [1145 GMT] today, the rapacious Air Force hawks carried out a violent raid against two oil pumping stations, No 2 and No 3, in the Gurreh oil fields. They accurately struck their targets and left with flames of fire engulfing them.

2. At 1615 [1215 GMT] today, our rapacious hawks defied the spiteful enemy's air defenses for the second time and delivered two destructive blows to two surface-to-air missile batteries: One of them a Hawk battery supplied by Zionism to its agents in Iran, and the other a SAM battery supplied to the Iranian regime by the enemies of our nation. These two batteries were destroyed.

3. At 1630 [1230 GMT] today, our aircraft delivered a destructive blow to a power station north of Hamadan and destroyed their target.

4. At the same time, another number of our aircraft were delivering a destructive blow to the control and antenna building at the Asadabad communications station, destroying their targets.

5. Our Air Force aircraft continued their raids against enemy positions and personnel concentrations throughout the operational theaters, managing to inflict grave losses in life, weapons, and equipment on the enemy. Our Air Force planes carried out 178 combat missions today in which they carried out the aforementioned tasks, as well as the tasks noted in Communiques No 2,800 and No 2,801 issued today. After carrying out these duties, all of our aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to the homeland, in God's care and protection.

O sons of our great people, these combat activities by our Air Force embody your will as expressed by your great leader, God protect him. They also fall within the framework of a comprehensive and indispensable reply to the Iranian regime's rejection of the calls for peace and its continuing aggression against our people. Let the Iranian rulers know that all of their abortive military attempts and their evil political maneuvers will not avert their defeat at your hands, O proud Iraqis.

Blessed be our Air Force — commanders, hawks, officers, and other ranks. Thank God, for He is the champion of believers.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 August 1987

Communique No 2,803 Issued

JN301648 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,803 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces continued their heroic activities in the theaters of operations last night and today as follows:

1. Our daring helicopter gunships carried out 39 combat missions today in which they inflicted further losses on the aggressors. They then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Seven infantry positions, one weapons emplacement, and five ammunition dumps were destroyed, and three scoundrels were killed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah. Our units in the same sector captured one SPG-9 gun, two RPG-7 launchers, and one light machinegun.

3. One enemy vehicle, three various positions, and one 60-mm mortar were destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

4. One 106-mm mobile gun was destroyed and all those manning it were killed, and one machinegun and two observation posts were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

5. Using long-range artillery, the spiteful Iranian rulers shelled residential areas in the valiant city of Basra. One child and 1 citizen were martyred in the enemy shelling, and 15 other civilians, including 5 children and 2 women, were wounded, with the shelling damaging a number of houses and civilian properties. The enemy also shelled two subdistricts of Qal'at Dizah. May paradise be the lot of our martyrs, and a speedy recovery for our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 August 1987

'Large Maritime Target' Struck
JN301729 Baghdad Voice of Masses in Arabic 1719 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Statement issued by military spokesman on 30 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In implementing our people's will to destroy the economic lifelines supplying our country's enemies with the means of military aggression, at 1930 [1530 GMT] today our Air Force aircraft delivered an accurate, effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast. After carrying out their duty, our aircraft then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

[Dated] 30 August 1987

Another 'Maritime Target' Hit
JN310515 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0455 GMT 31 Aut 87

[Statement issued by military spokesman on 31 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In implementing our legitimate, inalienable right to destroy the economic lifelines used by our country's enemies to prolong the war, at 2330 [1930 GMT] yesterday our heroic Air Force aircraft dealt an accurate, effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast. After carrying out their mission, our aircraft then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

[Dated] 31 August 1987

Spokesman Denies Plane Downed
JN310744 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Aug (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iran's claims of downing an Iraqi aircraft yesterday. In a statement to INA a short while ago, the Iraqi spokesman said that these claims are completely baseless. He added that all Iraqi aircraft that carried out missions yesterday returned safely to base. The spokesman challenged the Iranian rulers to produce a single piece of evidence substantiating their claims.

Further 'Maritime Target' Hit
JN310806 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0746 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Statement issued by military spokesman on 31 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. If Iraq promises to do something, it keeps its promise. The victories acheived by our heroic Air Force continue daily in implementing our great leader's and our genuine people's will. At 0745 [0345 GMT] today, our rapacious hawks dealt a devastating blow to another large maritime target near the Iranian coast. They struck it accurately and effectively, then returned safely to the homeland.

Let the regime of charlatanism know that its insistence on war and its rejection of the Security Council resolution will make it pay heavily and reap more catastrophes. Our success comes from God, our supporter.

[Dated] 31 August 1987

Spokesman Views Rafiqdust Threats to Cities
JN311102 Baghdad INA in English 1042 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, Aug, INA — An Iraqi military spokesman warned of striking Iranian cities if the Iranian enemy strikes Iraqi cities.

Replying to statement by the so-called Rafiqdust, minister of Iranian regime guards [Revolutionary Guard] and insolent threats of striking Iraqi cities with missiles, the spokesman said that if Rafiqdust and others imagine being capable with some missiles to blackmail Iraq, they should be mistaken and remember that Iraq in addition of having missiles, certainly more than those in the possession of Rafiqdust could drop scores of tonnes of explosives on Iranian cities in reply to any Iranian attempt.

The spokesman said that activity of the Iraqi Airforce is centered on economic targets which contribute to carry on Iranian aggression and that Iraq would continue striking at these targets as long as the war continues.

The spokesman said that if the Iranian regime accepted U.N. Security Council Resolution No. 598 and the war ends and peace is restored, then the Iranian regime would have preserved bloods of Iranian people and economy.

"We are aware that Rafiqdust and his masters are not concerned with bloods of the Iranian peoples as they are concerned with carrying on their evil intentions", he said.

The Iranian regime, the spokesman pointed out, works as it did before to start the war of cities with the object of minimizing Iraqi air strikes of its economic targets.

He added that previous experiences proved that Iraq is capable of dedicating ten bombers or more to strike the economic targets daily.

Iraq is capable at the same time to dedicate hundred fighter jets or more to strike the towns and recur such strikes several times a day, if Rafiqdust and his masters decided to resume the war of cities, the spokesman warned.

"The Iranian regime should think twice as a severe winter is approaching before it commits new foolish act," the spokesman stressed.

Cabinet Votes on Lavi Proposal 30 Aug

Decides To Terminate Production

TA300843 Tel Aviv IDF in Hebrew 0838 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel outside the Prime Minister's office in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] The Cabinet has decided to accept Minister Shim'on Peres' proposal on the Lavi, namely that the Lavi will not be produced but its development will continue. The vote was as follows: 12 ministers voted in favor; 11 voted against; and Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almozlino abstained.

Well, the alignment ministers indeed succeeded in persuading the health minister not to object to Minister Peres' proposal. She abstained, thus enabling his proposal to be accepted.

Vote Proceeds Along Party Lines

TA301039 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Excerpt] The Israeli Cabinet, a short time ago, voted to scrap the Lavi combat plane project in favor of the alternative worked out by Foreign Minister Peres. This report from Tzvi Pantonovitz:

[Begin recording] [Pantonovitz] The vote was 12 to 11 in favor of the Peres proposal with 1 abstention, that of Labor's Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almozlino. It was her vote in effect which gave the Peres proposal the one-vote edge. The Cabinet, for all intents and purposes, divided along party lines. Among the 12 voting for the Peres proposal, however, were Yitzhaq Peretz of SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] and Zvulum Hammer of the NRP [National Religious Party], and of course, the crucial vote of Finance Minister Nisim, a leading member of the Likud. The Likud's 11 votes came from the party supporters plus Yosef Shapira of the NRP.

It began to look like a political vote over the weekend when heavy pressure was brought to bear on Justice Minister Sharir of the Likud, and he announced that he had changed his mind and was voting with Prime Minister Shamir. Labor then turned the screws on Shoshana Arbeli-Almozlino. This morning she abstained. She said a few minutes ago that it was a sad decision for her, but party loyalties cannot be ignored. She was interviewed by Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Ben-'Ami] Are you sorry that you voted the way you did?

[Arbeli-Almozlino] I am very sorry, but this is a decision of the party and I am a member in the party. I am very sorry about the Likud and the prime minister made this decision a decision of the party and a political issue. I am very sorry for that and so my party did the same after the prime minister made it an issue, a political issue.

[Ben-'Ami] What do you see now as the future of IAI [Israel Aircraft Industries]?

[Arbeli-Almozlino] I want to hope that the decision and the suggestion that Mr Peres brought to the government will enable the industry to continue. They say that they will not fire people and that they will let them all stay. We hope that this will be true.

[Ben-'Ami] Do you anticipate a government crisis? There has been talk that Minister Arens (?might) resign.

[Arbeli-Almozlino] I do not know what will happen after the decision, but as of now the decision is that the suggestion of Shim'on Peres [word indistinct]. [end recording]

Arens Reportedly To Resign

TA301035 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1015 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Report by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein is now stepping out of the Prime Minister's Office, and we will let him deliver the announcement summing up today's Cabinet session. Mr Rubinstein, what is the Cabinet's announcement at the end of today's session?

[Rubinstein] In the weekly Cabinet session, the defense minister reviewed security issues within the framework of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs. By a majority of 12 votes in favor, 11 votes against, and 1 abstention the Cabinet approved the vice prime minister and foreign minister's proposal on the Lavi issue.

The Cabinet approved by a majority the proposal of the Ministerial Committee on the question of the Bet Shemesh Engine Plant regarding the negotiations with the banks and the buyers of the plant.

The Cabinet approved specific proposals of the Ministerial Committee on Road Safety on the question of road safety, including information and education, road infrastructure, legislation, the activities of Israeli Police, the training of drivers, and so forth.

The Cabinet approved the composition of the Israeli delegation to the UN General Assembly.

In the wake of the vote on the issue of the Lavi, Minister Moshe Arens announced his intention to resign from the government.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Rubinstein, could you elaborate on the connection between the Cabinet decision on the Lavi and its decision on the Bet Shemesh Engine Plant?

[Rubinstein] I would not like to go into that at this moment. The decision on the Bet Shemesh Engine Plant stands on its own merit, as far as I know.

[Ben-'Ami] Does that mean that the plant will be handed over to Stef Wertheimer?

[Rubinstein] I would not like to expand. To the best of my knowledge, the decision on the plant still applies.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Rubinstein, another question about Minister Arens' announcement. Will his resignation go into effect within 48 hours?

[Rubinstein] Minister Arens announced his intentions. To the best of my knowledge, according to the law, the resignation goes into effect 48 hours after the letter of resignation has been submitted. At the moment, I do not know that the letter has been sumbitted.

Arens on Decision To Resign

TA301116 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1038 GMT 30 Aug 87

[News conference with Minister Without Portfolio Moshe Arens outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] [Economic affairs correspondent Me'ir Einstein] Mr Minister, did you tender your resignation to the prime minister?

[Arens] I did tender it, but not to the prime minister. According to the law, I must inform the Cabinet about my intention to resign and I indeed did that.

[Einstein] Did you submit a letter of resignation?

[Arens] I have not yet submitted the letter of resignation. The law stipulates two stages in a minister's resignation from the Cabinet: He first announces his intention and then submits a letter.

[Einstein] I presume, sir, that Mr Shamir pleaded with you to go back on your decision. Are you still determined in your decision?

[Arens] Yes. As it turns out, even to quit the government is difficult. Even in matters such as these one has to go through a Via Dolorosa. I very much appreciate the prime minister's appeals. Incidentally, all the Herut ministers have spoken to me and are making it difficult for me to go ahead with my decision. It seems that to resign is also difficult. But never mind, we will get over it.

[Einstein] Mr Arens, this is a democratic government where decisions are made by a majority against a minority. Why are you not prepared to accept this decision?

[Arens] I strongly believe in democracy. The principle of the Israeli Government, of a democratic government, is for all intents and purposes, that of collective responsibility and even those who vote against a decision must bear responsibility for it. This is not easy and sometimes even difficult. On more than one occasion I have been in the minority in the Cabinet but I accepted my fate and was prepared to bear responsibility for decisions. In this particular case, I think the decision is so wrong, its implications are so negative in all aspects of life in the State of Israel, that I simply do not feel that I should or could bear responsibility for it.

[Einstein] Mr Arens, in the end was this a political rather than a matter-of-fact decision?

[Arens] I did not say that. I appreciate all the Cabinet ministers and I presume that each and every one of them thought very hard before they made up their mind. However, this does not change my belief that this decision is a very serious mistake.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio political correspondent 'Oz Frankel] Mr Arens, is there a chance you might go back on your intention, that your friends in the Herut Party might succeed in persuading you to change your mind?

[Arens] Look, I do not feel that I can stop my friends from going ahead with their persuasion attempts. Therefore, I would rather not address this specific question. In any event, I specifically announced to the Cabinet my intention to resign from the government.

[Einstein] Mr Arens, you were very active behind the scenes trying to muster a majority against Mr Peres' proposal. Do you regard the Cabinet decision as your own personal failure?

[Arens] I do not think I should regard this as my own failure. Those who want to give me grades for this political battle surely must realize that such a battle against a coalition of the defense minister, the finance minister, and the vice prime minister is not an easy one. At this point, I can certainly not say that I won this battle. I agree that it is better to win than to lose.

Finance Minister Interviewed

TA301133 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1052 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Telephone interview with Finance Minister Moshe Nisim by program moderator Arye Golan in the studio — live]

[Text] [Golan] Mr Nisim, you adhered to your position on the issue of the Lavi and voted in favor of Shim'on Peres' proposal rather than with the Likud ministers, and you made Moshe Arens leave. Are you sorry?

[Nisim] I am sorry you posed the question the way you did. I would like to say two things: First, I voted as I did — and this is a sad day, for me as well. We made a very painful decision, which I wish we did not have to make. However, knowing the situation in my capacity as finance minister, I must say that this decision had to be made. To my deep regret, there was no other way; Israel's security and economic needs as well as our desire to remedy Israel's economy could not but lead to this painful decision to terminate the Lavi project.

[Golan] Mr Minister, are your colleagues in the Likud now angry with you? After all, in the end, all ministers voted along party lines except for you.

[Nisim] Once again, I am sorry the question is posed this way. What was at stake was not the position of a specific minister vis-a-vis his party, but rather a large national project that entailed the expenditure of billions of dollars as well as the future

of Israel's defense industries and the weapons systems that will be at the IDF's disposal to gain the upper hand in the battlefield of the future. These were my considerations, and they all stemmed from my belief that this is the best decision that could have been made under the present circumstances.

I would like to add that Minister Arens' announcement about his wish to resign is very regrettable. I appreciate his ability and his contribution to the Cabinet. I believe he should go on serving in the Cabinet. I believe the prime minister will succeed in persuading him to go back on his resignation.

[Golan] I would like to ask you another question worded in a way you probably will not like. When all is said and done, you are a politician. Are you not afraid of paying a political price for your vote today? For example, do you foresee difficulties regarding your cooperation in the future with the prime minister, whose opinion was exactly opposed to yours?

[Nisim] I believe that the prime minister and I will be able to continue our cooperation and bring Israel's economic situation to a recovery. I would like to add that all my considerations were matter-of-fact and stemmed from my belief that this decision was really in Israel's best interest. Had I not wholeheartedly believed in this decision I would not have put myself in such a position and such a confrontation. In the meeting of the Likud ministers last Wednesday the prime minister explicitly stated that it is inconceivable that I or anybody else should be forced to vote against their own better judgment on such a matter of principle; it is almost a moral question. I think this was a matter-of-fact and moral statement and I believe it was right.

IAI Sources 'Stunned'

TA301452 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Senior sources in the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] directorate told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that they were stunned by the decision on the Lavi. In their opinion this decision will cause the IAI's status and condition to deteriorate among plane producers around the world.

At the same time, our military correspondent notes that about an hour ago the Lavi plane took off for its 82d experimental flight.

IDF 'Better Equipped' Without Lavi

TA301602 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] The IDF has prepared a multiyear plan for itself and for the military industries, especially for the Israeli Aircraft Industries [IAI]. This was stated by Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, chief of staff, in an initial reaction to the Cabinet decision on the Lavi. Our military correspondent Alon Ben-David reports on the IDF without the Lavi.

[Begin recording] [Ben-David] The Cabinet decision is painful but is the lesser of all evils from our point of view, the chief of staff said today. The decision leaves the IDF with about $6 billion for the next 10 years. After the Cabinet meeting the chief of staff, his deputy, the incoming Air Force commander, and the head of the Planning Branch in the General Staff met to discuss the initial implications of the Lavi project's termination. Chief of Staff Dan Shomron made the following remark:

[Shomron] The immediate operational implication of the cabinet decision as far as we are concerned is the need to prepare a long-term plan for the IDF and for the military industries, especially for the IAI, in order to guarantee, with the means at our disposal, the strength of the IDF and the high technological level of the military industries, which form a vital component in our overall power. In the future we will make every effort to use the impressive achievements of the IAI in its Lavi project in other spheres, and for other needs — needs related to our security and the IDF's power.

[Ben-David] The multiyear plan will include the IDF's procurement intentions and the development work it will request from the military industries. As for the procurement of planes from the United States, the deal may involve 75 F-16's as well as possible joint development with the Americans of the next generation of the F-16.

Over the coming years the IAI will develop, according to IDF specifications, advanced technological systems for planes. The IDF will invest money in its famous alternatives, which will include — this is what we can disclose about them — developing precise guided armaments, which are called smart weapons, developing an advanced pilotless plane, and other systems vital for the IDF that had been abandoned in recent years due to financial distress. The General Staff believes that without the Lavi, the IDF will be better equipped for the future battlefield. [end recording]

Defense Ministry To Handle Closure

TA301641 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1600 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] The defense minister has instructed David 'Ivri, the director general of the Defense Ministry, to concentrate on handling the implementation of today's Cabinet decision. The director general will set up teams for handling the details of closing down the Lavi project, while making every possible effort to minimize the damage to the Israeli Aircraft Industries [IAI]. Our military correspondent Alon Ben-David reports that IAI funding for this year will remain as was determined in the defense budget. Systems that are not connected to the Lavi will not be harmed at all, and efforts will be made to promote the development and production of projects that fall within the framework of IDF alternatives.

Peres on Cabinet Decision

TA301805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami following the 30 August Cabinet decision on the Lavi; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, after today's Cabinet meeting, which followed long days and weeks spent trying to find a solution for the Lavi and in which your proposal gained a majority today, you still did not look like a victor when you emerged from the Cabinet meeting hall.

[Peres] What feeling of victory do you expect? This was an unbearably difficult decision for me, almost like the decision on the economic plan at the time, because the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] is very dear to me. I in fact laid the foundations for it; I was the founder of it. I see before me the workers, the friends that I have there, and the decision was not at all simple. After I considered matters very very carefully, however, I reached the conclusion that my plan is a plan for rescuing rather than harming the IAI.

[Ben-'Ami] Looking at the details, the clauses of the plan, the first question that occurs to me is what indeed will happen to the IAI workers as of tomorrow morning?

[Peres] The IAI has been engaged in work worth $209 million for the Lavi project. According to this plan the Defense Ministry has now put about $100 million at the disposal of the engineering section, and we will conduct negotiations with the United States to increase the extent of work by another $100 million. The matter of dismissals, of both idividuals and whole sections, was a clear concern of mine and led me to my proposal. If you ask me about my considerations, they are as follows: We are talking of the next 10 years. According to the plan submitted by the IAI directorate, $480 million would have been spent yearly for the next 10 years, and the money would have come from three sources: from the Americans, who rejected the plan; from the Defense Ministry, which had other priorities; and from the Finance Ministry, which claimed the plan would have destroyed the economy. So, my question is how could this plan have materialized. It could have been artificially postponed until next year. In April [as heard] we will submit next year's budget. In January discussions will begin, and one will hear: The Defense Ministry will say it cannot manage with the budget; the Finance Ministry will say that deviation from the budget would amount to inflation; and the United States will say that under the circumstances it will not be able to allow us to convert another $100 million into shekels. In short, the IAI's sources would have dried up, while it was being attacked on all sides. Instead, we drew the appropriate conclusions. The conclusion is that Israel, and not only Israel, but also the United States and even the Soviet Union, are too small to be able to develop a plane on their own. We will continue to develop planes, but not alone; rather in the framework of joint efforts.

[Ben-'Ami] The practical meaning of the proposal is that, in fact, the two prototypes of the Lavi that exist today will not fly as of tomorrow, right?

[Peres] They may be flying for some time longer to test the avionics and the radar. What is meant by the two prototypes of the Lavi, after all? The Lavi has a U.S. engine, which does not need to be checked, as well as wings and a body. The main things, which are the avionics and the electronics involved — brilliant achievements have been scored here — should be developed further in the future. The Americans have already stated that they will be prepared to discuss cooperation with us in developing future planes, and this will be in addition to the things we will develop on our own. For instance, we are first in the world with regard to a drone. We should look ahead, not backward. A 10-year continuation of investment in the Lavi production would have caused the IAI development section to degenerate anyway. It would have tied the entire IAI to the past, while clashing with all the bodies on which it depends, including the Defense Ministry.

[Ben-'Ami] In conclusion, Mr Peres, a question on the decision-making procedure and the very difficult argument, as I understand, that took place during the Alignment ministers' consultation in the course of the Cabinet meeting. There were harsh verbal exchanges with Minister Arbeli-Almozlino, and there have been very strong reactions by the IAI workers, also with regard to the political sphere. How has this subject turned into a political issue?

[Peres] Until last Friday it had been an argument among ministers. Since Friday, when discipline was imposed on Minister Sharir, it stopped being such an argument and turned into a political issue. By Friday it was a legitimate argument. There were 13 ministers who supported my plan and 11 who opposed it; everything was open and well-known, after all. What happened last Friday was a political-partisan intervention to change ministers' minds. From that moment, the issue ceased to be that of individual ministers' opinions. I know what Arbeli-Almozlino went through; how difficult this was for her. I very much respect her decision. I told her and I am saying this again: There is no envoy without senders; we are also envoys.

Sharon Strongly Critical

TA301847 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1600 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon today sharply attacked the Cabinet decision on the Lavi. We have seen the Cabinet in its weakness today, with minor partisan intrigues and the exerting of partisan pressure on national issues leading to the shooting down of the Lavi, Sharon said. Our correspondent Yaron Kulas reports that in a ceremony of dedication a garden in memory of the Istanbul Jewish community members who were massacred about a year ago, Minister Sharon sharply attacked Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. We have seen yet another example of weakness, self-assimilation, and a personal interest of finding favor in the eyes of foreigners, of dancing to the tune of others, as Sharon put it.

Shamir Denies Politicizing Issue

TA310420 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir has denied Labor allegations, led by Vice Premier Peres, that he turned the vote on the Lavi into a political issue. Speaking to the Voice of Israel, Shamir claimed that Peres was guilty of pressuring Labor Cabinet members, including Health Minister Arbeli-Almozlino. Her decision to abstain in yesterday's vote was the turning point in favor of the Lavi's cancellation. Shamir said he was successful in convincing Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir to vote for the project, but that he failed in his efforts to sway Finance Minister Moshe Nisim.

IAI Workers March on Labor Party

TA311057 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Hundreds of IAI [Israeli Aircraft Industries] workers marched through Tel Aviv from the Defense Ministry to Labor Party headquarters a short time ago. The workers were prevented from marching on the U.S. Embassy by police. Sabra Chartrand reports:

[Begin recording] Singing and chanting, hundreds of IAI workers converged on the Labor Party headquarters, appearing more pleased to have a day off work in the sunshine than angry with the politicians who decided to take an action which will cost some 4,000 to 5,000 of them their jobs. Shouting slogans — their favorites were "Chickdino almozlino" [almozlino is a chicken or coward] and "Peres go home" — the workers stood patiently outside Labor Party headquarters swaying, waving their arms, and singing most enthusiastically when photographers appeared to snap their pictures. One of the workers said the demonstration was intended to force the government to reconsider. [passage omitted]

Eventually, a member of the IAI workers committee announced over a loud speaker that it would not be worthwhile to break into the party offices since no one was inside. Labor Party Secretary General 'Uzi Bar'am, who was scheduled to arrive, got stuck in a traffic jam from Jerusalem and never appeared. A large number of police and border guards armed with night sticks and tear gas canisters also helped to dissuade the workers, but as they moved away from the Labor Party building, some demonstrators tried to start a spontaneous march on the U.S. Embassy. The relaxed border police came to life and, using a human chain, blocked the road. Shouting: Don't resort to violence, the workers turned and walked back to their waiting buses. [end recording]

Shamir Rejects Second Vote

TA310817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] The prime minister does not support the proposals to hold a second Cabinet vote on the Lavi. This was reported by his associates to our economic affairs correspondent Me'ir Einstein.

In a telephone conversation with Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] executives, the prime minister said that the decision should be accepted, adding that the goal now is to secure the existence of the IAI.

This morning, Minister Ari'el Sharon said that he will take action to hold a second vote on the Lavi.

Text of Cabinet Resolution

TA310954 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 30 Aug 87

["Cabinet Resolution on the Lavi" — GPO headline; "Communicated by the Cabinet secretary" — GPO subslug]

[Text] The following resolution was passed today by the Cabinet:

1. The Defense Ministry will act to ensure the maintenance of the technological and productive capability of IAI [Israel Aircraft Insustries] in the fields of research, development, production, and enhancement of aircraft and combat materiel.

2. Although the current model of the Lavi will not be realized in terms of production, development of the technology for the next-generation aircraft will continue. To this end, the Defense Ministry will allocate from the existing defense budget $100 million a year, one portion of which will be invested in development of aviation systems, and another portion of which will be invested in IDF alternatives in the relevant fields.

3. The examination with the U.S. authorities regarding Israel's participation in the development of the next model of the F-16, and the possibility of participation in the production stage, will continue.

4. An immediate effort will be made to increase the part of IAI in the production of the F-16, as part of the program for equipping the IDF.

5. The defense budget from state sources will not be decreased as a result of the cancellation of the Lavi program.

6. The Defense Ministry will ensure that the overall scope of funding for IAI in 1987 will not be reduced from what has been allocated to it in the shekel budget for 1987.

Shamir Now Examining Second Vote

TA311151 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1130 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Report by Yaron Kulas at the Prime Minister's office — live]

[Text] In the next few days, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will hold consultations on the possibility of holding a second Cabinet vote on the Lavi. This was discussed this morning in a meeting that included Shamir and Minister Moshe Arens, and was also the only promise Shamir could give representatives of the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI]. The prime minister will hold a second vote in no later than a week or two, but only if he learns that there

is a clear majority for his proposal. The next few weeks will thus be characterized by more persuasion efforts and pressure.

At the beginning of the session, the IAI representatives told the prime minister that they would comply with his exhortations and promised him to stop the disruptions of order for the moment. 'Ovadya Harari, head of the Lavi project in the IAI, informed the prime minister that Moshe Quret, director general of the IAI, had instructed him this morning to dismiss 3,000 employees at once. His voice shaking with emotion, Harari said that chances are that most of these workers will seek employment abroad.

The prime minister asked the workers to meet with the press and inform its representatives of the great difficulty that the immediate termination of the project entails.

The meeting was also attended by Minister Moshe Arens, who for the moment has postponed his resignation until the chances of a second Cabinet vote are clarified.

Defense Ministry Denies IAI Dismissals

TA311411 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] The Defense Ministry has denied that workers of the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] are to be dismissed immediately. The Defense Ministry's statement says there is no basis to the report that the IAI director had instructed the Lavi project director to dismiss 3,000 workers at once.

Minister Rabin told the IAI director this evening that workers will not be dismissed before coordination between the Defense Ministry and the IAI on this matter is completed.

4 'Terrorists' Killed in Security Zone 29 Aug

TA300418 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] An Israeli force has killed four terrorists north of the security zone in south Lebanon. There were no Israeli casualties. The incident took place near the village of Yatar which the Army spokesman says has become a staging area for attacks against Israel. The spokesman goes on to say that the incident comes within the framework of Israeli operations against sites of Katyusha shelling and terrorist activity.

The Israeli force returned to Israeli territory after carrying out its mission. The troops encountered the terrorists twice yesterday morning. In the first encounter three of the gunmen were killed at close range. Later, the force spotted a large group of terrorists, opened fire, killing one more. Weapons and explosives were found near the bodies. Following the two encounters, there were further exchanges with the terrorists, but there were no Israeli or South Lebanese Army casualties.

The terrorists fired at the area occupied by the Nepalese brigade of the UNIFIL force, but the IDF was careful not to hit any UNsoldiers. Recently the Hizballah Shi'ite organization has stepped up its attacks, as the 'Ashura religious holiday draws near.

Shomron Explains Operation

TA301620 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] The IDF acts beyond the security zone only in order to liquidate sources of Katyusha firing and terrorist staging areas. This was stated by Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, the chief of staff, today following the IDF operation yesterday. Alon Ben-David talked with the chief of staff.

[Begin recording] [Shomron] I want to make it clear that the IDF has no interest or desire to act beyond the security zone. Action is only initiated beyond the security zone by the IDF when we have reports that Katyusha launchers have been positioned to threaten our northern settlements. Therefore, the IDF is searching the area to nip this danger in the bud. The other possibility is when we have reports that terrorist groups are organizing to prepare attacks on our northern settlements, the IDF, or the South Lebanese Army. Only when these conditions exist does the IDF initiate action beyond the security zone. This is how we will act in the future too.

[Ben-David] Can such activity indeed reduce the number of Katyushas, which have continued to land in the Galilee lately?

[Shomron] There is no doubt that such activity reduces the number of Katyusha attacks. It is difficult to say by how much. I have no doubt, however, about the reduction; we have quite good information on this. Let me emphasize: Our intention is to maintain normal life on both sides of the security zone. [end recording]

Vanunu Trial Opens 30 Aug Behind Closed Doors

TA300711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] The trial of Mordekhay Vanunu opened in Jerusalem about 30 minutes ago. Our correspondent Gil'ad Sher reports that the trial is being held behind closed doors. Avigdor Feldman, Vanunu's lawyer, has nevertheless said that immediately upon the beginning of the trial he will ask for the doors to be opened and a public trial be held. Some 30 journalists are gathered outside the court. A representative of Amnesty International who wants to oversee the hearings is also on the scene.

Prime Minister al-Rifa'i Returns From Saudi Arabia
JN301849 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i returned to Amman this evening after a brief working visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.During this visit, he delivered a letter from His Majesty King Husayn to his brother King Fahd, custodian of the two holy mosques, concerning regional developments and the close ties between the fraternal countries. A number of their excellencies, the ministers, and the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force were on hand to greet him at the airport.

Egyptian Official Al-Janzuri Arrives 28 Aug
JN281536 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] Amman — Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, arrived in Amman today. He and his delegation are on a 2-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, he will lead the Egyptian side in the first session of the founding committee of the Egyptian-Jordanian Holding Company. In a statement to the press, Dr al-Janzuri praised the existing economic cooperation between Jordan and Egypt. He said that with this company, the two sides will promote ways and areas of cooperation. He added that the two countries also agreed to launch several companies in the areas of tourism, fishing, and meat and seed production.

Upon his arrival, Dr al-Janzuri was received at Queen Alia International Airport by Dr Raja'i al-Mu'ashshir, minister of industry, trade, and supply; Muhammad al-Saqqaf, under secretary at the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Supply; Ihab Wahbah, the Egyptian ambassador to Amman; the embassy staff; and a number of officials.

Meets Al-Rifa'i, Officials
JN291227 Amman Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT Aug 87

[Text] Prime Minister Mr Zayd al-Rifa'i today received in his office Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, the Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation. The meeting was held in the presence of Dr Raja'i al-Mu'ashshir, minister of industry, trade, [and supply], and the Egyptian ambassador to Amman. Discussions during the meeting concerned bilateral relations and means of bolstering them.

Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd al-Wahab al-Majali received in his office today Dr al-Janzuri in the presence of Dr al-Mu'ashshir and the Egyptian ambassador to Jordan. They discussed the existing cooperation between the two countries.

Dr Raja'i al-Mu'ashshir, the minister of supply, industry, and trade, today discussed with Dr al-Janzuri trade and economic relations between the two countries and the need to increase commercial exchange, particularly in the scope of the founding committee directing the joint Jordanian-Egyptian holding company. The formation of the company was earlier endorsed by the joint Jordanian-Egyptian higher committee, which is cochaired by the prime ministers of both countries.

Received by King Husayn
JN301535 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Dr Mamal al-Janzuri, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, at the Hashemite Royal Court today. His majesty was briefed on the progress of eocnomic cooperation between Egypt and Jordan and methods of promoting this cooperation in the interest of both fraternal countries.

Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; Dr Tahir Kan'an, minister of planning; and the Egyptian ambassador to Amman attended the meeting.

Joint Holding Company Formed
JN301705 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] The minutes of the first meeting of the Constituent General Assembly of the Egyptian-Jordanian Holding Company for Investment and Development were signed at the Ministry of Industry and Trade today. The company's capital is $50 million, which will be shared equally between the countries. The company selected Amman as its headquarters.

The minutes were signed on the Jordanian side by Dr Raja'i al-Mu'ashir, minister of industry, trade, and supply. The minutes were signed on the Egyptian side by Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation. These minutes contain an announcement on the company's formation, a call for the founders to settle their shares in its capital, and the beginning of the company's work, which consists of establishing two red-meat projects in Jordan and a fisheries project in Egypt as a first step.

The minutes pointed out that the company's goal is to establish other companies in the fraternal countries, contribute to economic and social development, and entrench relations and work to enhance the countries' economic integration. The minutes also state that the company will leave the door open to fraternal Arab countries so that they can participate in the company's various projects.

Al-Janzuri, Delegation Depart
JN301834 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, Egypt's minister of planning and international cooperation, and his accompanying delegation departed Amman this afternoon following a 3-day official visit to Jordan.

Birri Outlines Program To End Camps Crisis

NC301557 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Excerpts] The Amal Movement held a military parade in Ba'labakk city today marking the 9th anniversary of the disappearance of Imam Musa al-Sadr. [passage omitted]

Following the military parade, Minister Nabih Birri gave a speech in which he outlined a five-point program for ending the [Palestinian] camps crisis. The five points are:

1. The effectuation of a complete withdrawal from eastern Sidon, and the return of each side to positions held prior to the outbreak of hostilities;

2. The readiness of Birri to go at once, together with Amal and Palestinian leaders, on a visit of all the camps, beginning with the Tyre camps. The aim of the visit would be to listen to their committees and to immediately respond to any request that they put forward. The 'Ayn al-Hulwan, Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, and Beirut camps would be visited as well;

3. Unarmed liaison offices would be set up in the Tyre camps that would be manned jointly by two Amal Movement members, two representatives from each camp, and two internal security men, while two of our Syrian brothers would substitute for the internal security members in the Beirut camps. The task of these liaison offices would be to supervise the implementation of the Damascus agreement and to provide security for the camps and their environs;

4. The commencement on 1 November 1987 of operations to reconstruct the camps and their surroundings; and

5. The establishment of a leading higher coordination committee to examine any other matter related to the resistance or any other issues. The committee would comprise two members each of the Amal Movement and the Unification and Liberation Front, two members of the Palestinian Popular Committees, and two Syrian observers.

Birri stressed his preparedness to start implementing this program as of tomorrow, after celebrating the anniversary of Imam al-Sadr's disappearance. He said that this is our road to Jerusalem with, rather than against, the will of the faithful. [passage omitted]

Derides Al-Qadhdhafi

NC301724 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Speaking at a festival in Ba'labakk to mark the 9th anniversary of Imam Musa al-Sadr's disappearance, Minister Nabih Birri said: The battle has not ended, although it is in its final stages. He declared that Amal, supported by Syria, is the sole remaining bulwark against the Cypriotization of Lebanon and against turning it into protectorates and cantons.

Minister Birri added: There can be no government under the present regime. The government and the regime must go. In order to reach an agreement on a new Lebanon, a national conference should be convened. An extraordinary government should then be established to implement such an agreement.

Minister Birri then attacked Libyan leader Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi, describing him as the criminal in history. He asked: What has Al-Qadhdhafi done other than to kidnap the imam and to pay money to some movements, which claim to be nationalist, in order to fight Amal?

Minister Birri then presented a plan to resolve the camps war. This plan is based on a complete withdrawal from positions east of Sidon and the establishment of unarmed liaison posts and a higher command coordination committee, provided that operations are launched on 1 November to simultaneously reconstruct the camps and its environs.

Group Demands Libyan Diplomats Leave 'Immediately'

NC300539 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] A Shi'ite organization calling itself the Al-Sadr Brigades has warned Libya against attempting to reopen its embassy in West Beirut. This warning came on the eve of the anniversary of Imam Mus al-Sadr's disappearance following his visit to Libya in 1978.

A spokesman for the organization contacted a foreign news agency in Beirut, demanding that the Libyan diplomats leave Lebanon immediately and threatening to kill Libyan national Muhammad al-Maghribi, chairman of the Arab Youth Union, who resides in Damascus. The spokesman said: We had previously kidnapped and released Al-Maghribi, but we will liquidate him this time. He pointed out that, during his interrogation, Al-Maghribi gave evidence of Libya's involvement in the abduction of Imam al-Sadr in 1978.

'Many' Casualties in Two Tripoli Explosions 29 Aug

NC290736 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] An unspecified number of people were killed or wounded in two explosions in Tripoli this morning. The Voice of Lebanon correspondent has reported that the first blast took place in a garbage dumping site, near to which a public transport bus was parked. This area is close to the city's public park and fast food shops. Seconds later, another explosion took place inside a bus that was preparing to leave for Beirut.

Preliminary reports indicate that there are many casualties.

24 Casualties in Bus Bomb

NC290841 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] According to preliminary reports, 2 persons were killed and 22 were wounded in the second of two explosions that occurred in Tripoli this morning. The second blast took place inside a bus.

The Voice of Lebanon correspondent, who has kept us abreast of developments since the two explosions took place at 0940 today, reported that the first explosion occurred in a garbage dumping site near a public transport bus that was parked near the Quick Sandwich Restaurant and the city's public park. He added that the second blast took place inside another public transport bus moments later. The bus had been preparing to leave for Beirut.

Our correspondent also has reported that most of the casualties are Lebanese Army personnel.

The explosion damaged the municipal cultural center and the Picadilly, Sophie, and Quick Sandwich Restaurants.

The damaged vehicle is a Mercedes bus bearing license plate number 95429.

Group Claims Blasts

NC290914 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0845 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Five persons were killed and 22 others were injured in an explosion on board a public transport bus in Tripoli's Al-Tall Square this morning. It also caused extensive property damage and several fires. The Syrian forces cordoned off the area of the blast.

Another explosion had occurred moments before in a garbage dump near a bus station in Al-Tall Square.

An organization calling itself the Lebanese Liberation Front has claimed reponsibility. In a telephone call to the Radio Free Lebanon, a spokesman for the Front said the two explosions were aimed at a Syrian forces patrol. The spokesman claimed that the blasts had succeeded in killing or injuring several of the patrol's members.

Birri on Need for Reconciliation, Syrian Presence

NC281235 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] In a press interview [date not specified], Minister Nabih Birri said: We have made reconciliation a condition; otherwise, there will be no presidency. Birri reiterated his view that there should be neither fighting nor explosions.

In the interview, he expressed concern for Lebanon's well-being. Birri asserted that the decision to close the Al-Kafa'at crossing was made in order to protect the Christians and to prevent kidnappings between the two sectors of Beirut.

In an interview with *Al-Nahar Al-'Arabi Wa Duwali*, which is to be published tomorrow, he admitted that the closure of the Al-Kafa'at Road has deprived him of 5 million pounds a month in revenue.

Regarding the issue of the entry of Syrian troops into West Beirut, Minister Birri said: The most important outcome of this entry has been the cessation of exchanges of gunfire between East and West Beirut.

Commenting further on the Syrian presence, he stressed: If the Syrians do not leave after the Israelis do, I will stand against them. I am not Syria's agent, but a friend and ally.

He added: The Christians have not gained anything from the presidency, but have suffered much.

Asked why everything pertaining to Lebanon takes place in Damascus, he replied: One can move in one of three directions. First, there is Israel, which is an enemy. Second, there is the sea, but not everyone can swim. Third, there is Syria, which can return the homeland.

Birri Arrives in Ihdin To Meet Franjiyah

NC281336 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] Attorney Nabih Birri, minister of state for southern affairs, arrived in Ihdin at 1400 this afternoon to meet with former President Sulayman Franjiyah and discuss with him steps necessary for the convocation of a national conference.

Minister Birri had earlier met with Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Butrus Sfayr in Al-Diman. Before leaving the patriarchate seat at 1315, Minister Birri said: Changing the government or a person will not solve the political crisis. There must be a radical solution that will enable us to produce people who can save Lebanon. It will either be a white revolution or a black revolution. What happened yesterday portends this.

Birri said further that he supports lifting the subsidy on gasoline, provided that medical treatment and school textbooks are provided free of charge. He pointed out that gasoline is being smuggled and the people do not benefit from it.

Interior Minister Al-Rasi Views Security Situation

NC281335 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1120 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi has monitored the developments in the security situation in Beirut and the various areas in light of the demonstrations that took place in Beirut yesterday. The demonstrations were held to protest the high cost of living and the unjustified mad rise in the dollar's exchange rate.

Minister al-Rasi convened a security meeting at his house last night that was attended by senior security commanders. The talks on the security situation were continued at a meeting which

Al-Rasi chaired today. The session was attended by Brigadier General 'Umar Makhzumi, director general of the Internal Security Forces; Brigadier General Antoine Nasr, commander of the Gendarmerie; Colonel 'Isam Abu Zaki, commander of the Judicial Police; Colonel 'Ali 'Ashur, commander of the Jabal Lubnan Company; Lieutenant Colonel Ra'is Zaydan, commander of the regional company; Lieutenant Colonel Nabil al-Zayn, commander of the Beirut judicial detachment; Major Fayiz Rahhal, assistant commander of the regional company; and Lieutenant Colonel Dirgham, who represented 'Ali Hammud, the commander of the Syrian observers team.

During the meeting, the discussion dealt with the developments in the security situation in light of the demonstrations in Beirut, held to protest the high cost of living, and the accompanying acts of vandalism that resulted in the destruction of some exchange shops.

Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi stressed the need for the Internal Security Forces to accompany the demonstrators without accosting them unless they resorted to acts of violence and riots.

Minister al-Rasi asked the Internal Security Forces to accompany the demonstrators in order to prevent intruders from penetrating their ranks and thus avert acts of vandalism. This would eliminate the possibility that the security forces would be compelled to resort to force. [passage omitted]

Ministerial Meeting Convenes Under Al-Huss

NC291320 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Excerpt] A ministerial meeting was held this morning under the chairmanship of acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss. The meeting was attended by Ministers 'Abdallah al-Rasi and 'Adil 'Usayran. Former Minister Marwan Hamadah apologized for Minister Walid Junblatt's inability to attend because of previous engagements. [passage omitted]

Al-Huss on Meeting

NC291332 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has explained that the meeting which took place in his house today was a ministerial, not a ministerial council, meeting. He said that the participants discussed the general living conditions with the aim of reaching common views which could ease as much as possible the economic hardships facing the citizens at this time.

Dr al-Huss, stressing the importance of reaching a common position shared by all the ministers, said that he has given himself 1 week to hold consultations with the other ministers in order to achieve common denominators.

The acting prime minister noted that the economic problem is not limited to the problem of whether to end subsidies or not, but is rather a complex problem that affects the livelihood of the people.

Answering a question, Dr al-Huss reaffirmed that the cabinet has been considered as resigned since the late Prime Minister Rashid Karami announced his resignation. In effect, and according to the constitution and tradition, the government fell when its head was martyred.

Asked whether there is any inclination to break the deadlock in the light of what is being said; that is, that the boycott [of the president] is responsible for the deterioration of the situation, the acting prime minister said: If we wish to discuss this subject, there is much that must be said. Blaming the boycott for the problems during this period is to a large extent wrong. If there are some who think that the mere meeting of the cabinet once again will have a magic effect and change the situation completely, they are mistaken.

Ja'ja' on Unity Among Christians, Syrian Plans

NC291910 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Excerpts] A ceremony was held today to unveil a statue of Pierre al-Jumayyil, founder of the Phalangist Party and an advocate of independence. [passage omitted]

In his speech during the ceremony Lebanese Forces Commander Dr Samir Ja'ja' outlined the united Christian position for the current phase.

[Begin Ja'ja' recording] We, together with the president of the Republic and the Army, are in the same trench, facing the same destiny on a long road. If the height of the conspiracy is to instigate a political or military massacre against the Lebanese Forces, the height of resistance is to insist on unity among Christian ranks. Those who are betting on a split between us are deluding themselves, and their bet is and always has been doomed to be lost. We take lessons from history: There should be no division between us, and no agreement among our enemies. We tell our enemies today: We are here, united, and you can go to hell. [applause] The equation is clear for us and for everybody, although some try to cloud or ignore it. We are the fixed number in the Lebanese equation and in regional and international equations.

It is our right and duty to warn everyone against misinterpreting the picture or miscalculating. Any attempt to resolve the situation in Lebanon by relying on the presence or recognized role of any non-Lebanese power will ultimately fail, no matter how long it may last. Whoever seeks the sovereignty, independence, freedom, and unity of Lebanon cannot allow or acknowledge the role of non-Lebanese forces on its soil.

He who wants to see Lebanon liberated should not differentiate between a hostile or fraternal occupation. We raise our voice loudly against Syria, addressing it as it truly deserves — even though our actions in this regard are not enough — because Damascus is occupying the biggest part of Lebanon. It rejects

recognizing Lebanon and establishing normal relations with it, as is the norm in the world. It is obstructing a solution for Lebanon as a prelude to annexing it. If this is not the case, why does Syria prevent the convocation of the Ministerial Council, the formation of a Lebanese Government, and dealings with the president of the Republic? It is as if Syria's slogan is: Either Lebanon becomes part of Syria, or there will be no solution and no Lebanon. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Dr Ja'ja' continued: We reach out to all Lebanese to fight the battle of liberation and unification together. He added: There is no such thing as unification under occupation; this is a sheer lie and hypocrisy, as is talk about liberation under the flags of the tribes that seek backwardness, fighting, and fragmentation. The road to unification and liberation can be traveled only through inter-Lebanese reconciliation, not through siding with the occupiers against a certain Lebanese faction in form and the whole of Lebanon in substance, he added.

Frankly speaking, Ja'ja' noted, the road to division and to other, far more serious developments lies in splitting the Christian community. This is particularly true because Christian unity is necessary for Lebanon's unity, just as the latter is necessary for the survival of the Christians. We, the Lebanese resistance, he added, are just as eager for Christian unity as we are for Lebanon's unity. There is no division between us, although some malicious intrigues are being planned to divide us. He continued: Our survival in freedom is most sacred for us, and our livelihood heads our list. We will not accept the starvation of the Lebanese people, although it is not by bread alone that they survive. We will not let the Lebanese people be prevented from ending the war among themselves and achieving peace. Therefore, we call for a government of independence that will frustrate the plans of those playing with Lebanon. The game has gone on too long, and the Lebanese have bled enough. The time has come for all of us to get foreign hands off Lebanon, he declared. [passage omitted]

Resistance Fires Rockets; Israelis Continue Firing

NC290733 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Resistance fighters fired rockets at the occupation forces' position on Yatar Hill at dawn today in retaliation for the enemy's shelling of the towns of Kafra and Yatar yesterday evening.

A statement issued by the resistance said that fires were seen raging in the position.

It was reported from the south a short time ago that the outskirts of Kafra, Yatar, and Jibal al-Butm were still coming under concentrated Israeli shelling this morning. Israeli helicopters also fired a number of rockets at the forests in the area.

Israeli, Lahd Forces Attacked

NC291200 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] A group of resistance fighters commenced concentrated shelling on Yatar Hill at 0600 today, inflicting casualties on the enemy. Enemy helicopters flew over the outskirts of Kafra, Yatar, and Jibal al-Butm immediately thereafter, firing rockets at the hills neighboring the town of Haris.

A group of Islamic resistance fighters laid an ambush for enemy infantry soldiers in the area of Wadi al-Dulb near Yatar at 1130 today. Extremely fierce clashes involving the use of various types of weapons are now raging there. Other resistance groups are directing concentrated shelling at Al-Khazzan Hill, where columns of smoke have been seen billowing from the position.

Meanwhile, the occupation forces are returning the shelling from their position on Al-Khazzan Hill. Israeli helicopters are flying over the area and are being confronted with antiaircraft fire.

In the meantime, the occupation forces stationed in Jabal Humayd and on Rshaf Hill are directing concentrated shelling on the towns of Haris and Kafra. Thus far, 18 shells have landed in the inner areas of Haris, with two hitting the mosque there at 1300. The Government School in the town also has been hit. The violent clashes and shelling are still continuing. Three resistance men were wounded in the shelling, and received immediate medical attention.

In another development, a group of resistance fighters attacked an agent militia patrol near Tallat Kayruz in the Jazzin area at dawn today. The fighters used machineguns and rockets during the 20-minute clash with patrol members. According to security information, the agents sustained at least three casualties. In addition, the resistance fighers destroyed an agents' tracked vehicle and a jeep. The agents' radio admitted the attack, saying that during a search operation, the bodies of two resistance men, automatic weapons, an RPT-7 clamp [qabid], and offensive handgrenades, were found. As usual, the radio claimed that the militia sustained no casualties.

200-300 Fighters in Clash

NC291659 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Excerpts] An NNA correspondent in the western sector of southern Lebanon has reported that resistance fighters ambushed an infantry patrol of the Israeli occupation forces in Wadi al-Shuhada' [the martyrs valley], formerly Wadi al-Dubb, near Yatar at 1100 today. Fierce clashes involving the use of various types of weapons took place, lasting several hours. During the clashes other resistance groups directed concentrated shellfire at Al-Khazzan Hill, where fires were seen raging, to cut the supply route to the enemy patrol and its reinforcements. Soldiers manning this position returned the fire. Tanks deployed on Yatar Hill also shelled the resistances fighters' positions in Wadi al-Dubb.

The NNA correspondent estimated that between 200 and 300 resistance fighters rushed to the area at the beginning of the confrontation. Three of them were reportedly wounded and received first aid. According to reports enemy radio communications monitored indicated that two enemy soldiers were killed and a third wounded.

Enemy helicopters immediately began raking the villages of Kafra, Yatar, Jibal al-Butm, and Zibqin, drawing antiaircraft fire. [passage omitted]

Lebanese and International Red Cross ambulances went to the area at 1330 to evacuate casualties. Nepalese UNIFIL ambulances also entered the villages which came under shellfire. [passage omitted]

8 Israeli Soldiers Killed

NC300503 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance issued a statement this morning announcing that one of its groups ambushed a Zionist patrol on the Basil-al-Salihani road at 0100 today, killing eight Zionist soldiers. Approximately 10 armored vehicles then intervened to support the besieged Zionist force.

One of the vehicles hit a mine and was damaged. During the ensuing clashes the resistance lost two of its members. Their fate is still unknown.

An enemy spokesman admitted the operation, this morning saying that five soldiers have been wounded.

10 Killed in Jazzin Area

NC301145 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1015 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Excerpt] The Islamic Resistance released the following statement this morning: In the days and nights of 'Ashura and on the anniversary of his eminence Imam Musa al-Sadr's disappearance, the Holy Mecca Group of the Islamic Resistance, responding to Imam Husayn's call, launched a characteristically daring attack at 0300 today, Sunday, 6 Muharram [30 August] against a position held by the Zionist enemy and its agents in (Rimal) in the Jazzin area.

The group's strugglers, using machineguns and grenades, fought a violent, approximately 15-minute battle with the personnel manning the position. The Islamic Resistance group succeeded in occupying the position and demolished its fortifications, burned the vehicles parked inside it, and killed all 10 troops manning it.

Afterwards, an Islamic Resistance engineering team blew up the building, causing a fire which lasted for more than 10 minutes. The residents of Iqlim al-Tuffah saw the flames rising from the blazing building.

Meanwhile, Islamic Resistance artillery directed concentrated shelling against the positions of the enemy and its agents in Buslayya and Rummanah, scoring direct hits against them. Our strugglers returned safely to base. [passage omitted]

Burning Tires Close Roads in Sidon 29 Aug

NC290627 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0500 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Our correspondent in the city of Sidon has reported this morning that as the city awoke today, public roads were being cut with burning tires in protest against the high cost of living and the sharp slump in the exchange rate of the Lebanese pound.

This spontaneous move came in the wake of the decision by the General Union of Employees in the south to postpone the strike and popular action until Monday.

Meanwhile, the money exchange shops remained closed for the 2d consecutive day after rumors had been circulated that the owners of these shops have been warned against tampering with the dollar rates.

Damascus Condemns Resumed Iraqi Attacks on Iran
JN311339 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, for the past 2 days now the Iraqi regime has escalated the fighting in the Gulf region by resuming air attacks on the freedom of navigation in Gulf waters. The head of the Iraqi regime justified this escalation by his desire to make the Iranian Government accept UN Security Council Resolution No 598 — by force.

The subject of force presently raised by the head of the Iraqi regime reminds us of the bragging and threats once made by the rulers of Nazi Germany, who wanted to subjugate the whole world by using force and threatening to use force. It also reminds us of the aggressive, braggart statements that were made by the head of the Iraqi regime when he ordered the aggressive war against the Iranian revolution, which is hostile to Zionism and imperialism. He said in those statements. The Iraqi forces advancing into Iranian territory are the ones that will demarcate the borders and help the Iranian peoples achieve liberation.

People know that the one who bragged about his force, had ambitions on other people's territory, and sought to overthrow a regime hostile to Zionism and imperialism was dealt a major defeat that forced him to retreat inside Iraqi territory under his own strange slogan of advancing backwards. The head of the Iraqi regime has rejected all efforts that were exerted earlier in the war, including the sincere, earnest efforts of President Hafiz al-Asad, to end this destructive war when this was still possible and before the bloodbaths he caused had made the war's cessation a difficult and complicated matter.

No matter how the head of the Iraqi regime today tries to feign a desire to end the war and achieve peace, this pretense cannot make the Iranians, Arabs, or world public opinion forget that it was he who sparked this war and assumed responsibility for this act of aggression against a revolution that is both hostile to Zionism and imperialism and friendly toward the Arabs. He is fully responsible for all the tragedies, hardships, destruction, economic ruin, and the vast human losses suffered by both Iraq and Iran. The one responsible must pay the price of his responsibility. It is the duty of the international community to deal with him in light of this responsibility. The one who started the war cannot suddenly turn into an angel of peace and a carrier of the olive branch.

Syria has condemned the aggressive war against the Iranian revolution right from the start and called for its suspension at a time when this was possible. It also warned of the dangers this conflict posed to the Arabs and the Iranians, the pan-Arab cause in Palestine, and the entire cause of national liberation in the Middle East. Here now, developments confirm the soundness of the Syrian stand and the responsibility of the Iraqi regime for all the destruction that has occurred and that will occur in the future.

The Iraqi regime's return to the method of attacking economic and civilian targets in Iran and encroaching on the freedom of innocent merchant shipping in international waters in the Gulf — at a time when the United States and some of its allies are reinforcing their military presence in the Gulf on the pretext of defending freedom of navigation in international waters — and when the Iraqi news media and also those directed by Iraq are attacking the USSR, the Arabs' friend and strategic ally against imperialism and Zionism exposes the extent of the link between the movements and plans of the Iraqi regime and the United States. These show that this regime, which is hostile to people, feels strongly about the presence of imperialist fleets, and continues to play its role against peace, the freedom of navigation, and the pan-Arab cause in Palestine.

The Iraqi regime's resuming its war against freedom of navigation and its escalating the fighting with Iran at a time when Iranian officials have announced their readiness to accept the Security Council resolution, if the Council declared the aggressor in this war and condemned his aggressive act, exposes the false desire for peace. It does this just as it also exposes the false U.S. claim that the military buildup in the Gulf is for the purpose of protecting freedom of navigation.

One may or may not agree with all, most, or even some of the Iranian revolution's concepts. But one must admit that this revolution, which is hostile to Zionism and imperialism, has liquidated an agent regime that was hostile to the Arabs and friendly to Israel. This revolution has been exposed to an aggression by the Iraqi regime and this aggression has done great harm to Iran, to the pan-Arab cause, and to the struggle against Zionism and imperialism.

FRG Official Arrives for Talks on Hostages
JN281837 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Dr Heinz Fiedler, a senior FRG official and head of the FRG Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department, arrived in Damascus this evening. He was met at the airport by senior Syrian Foreign Ministry officials and the FRG ambassador.

Diplomatic sources said Dr Fielder will hold talks with senior Syrian officials on a number of basic political issues. He will particularly discuss the disturbed situation in the Gulf and the issue of the two FRG hostages in Lebanon. These sources added that Dr Fiedler will also hold important talks with Syrian Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm concerning economic cooperation and trade exchange between the two countries. [passage omitted]

Received by Al-Shar'
JN291453 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1415 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] In Damascus, Faruq al-Shar', foreign minister, received Heinz Fiedler, head of the FRG Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department, in Damascus today. Talks centered on ways to

improve bilateral relations in all fields and the current situation in the Middle East region and the Arab Gulf. In the name of the FRG Government, Fiedler praised the outstanding, constructive role Syria is playing in order to reach just solutions to the region's problems.

Meets With Minister al-Kasm

JN300806 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Damascus — Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, prime minister, received Heinz Fiedler, head of the FRG Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department, at 1900 today. The meeting was attended by 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the FRG ambassador to Damascus.

During the meeting, talks centered on bilateral relations, methods of developing them, and current issues in the Middle East. The talks also covered a number of issues of common interest.

Rajjuh Returns From Tunis Information Meeting

JN301829 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Minister of Information Yasin Rajjuh returned to Damascus from Tunis this evening after leading the Syrian delegation at the Arab information ministers' conference. The delegation comprised the minister's assistant, the director general of the *Syrian Arab News Agency* [SANA], and the director of the minister's office. Directors of information organizations and a number of media officials received the delegation.

The SANA delegate to the conference said the Syrian delegation's participation was effective and successful concerning the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the conference.

Pakistani Official, Delegation Arrive for Visit

LD292106 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Marshall Asghar Khan, leader of Pakistan's Tehrik-i Estiqlal Party, arrived in Kabul this afternoon at the head of a high-ranking delegation for a friendly visit to the DRA at the invitation of the DRA National Front. The delegation was warmly welcomed by Abdurrahim Hatef, chairman of the DRA National Front Central Council; Training and Education Minister Abdul Samad Qayumi; and Deputy Foreign Minister Sarfaraz Mohmand. [passage omitted]

Received by Abdul Wakil

LD302257 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Comrade Abdul Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and foreign affairs minister, this afternoon met at his office with Marshal Ashgar Khan, chairman of the Tehrik-i Isteqlal Party of Pakistan, who is on a friendly visit to the DRA at the head of a high-ranking delegation.

During the meeting Comrade Abdul Wakil spoke about the recent developments in the country; the policy of national reconciliation; the necessity of proclaiming this policy and the achievements gained from it in the way of maintaining peace and tranquillity; and the cessation of bloodshed and war in the country. In addition, he also spoke about the (?principles) of the DRA's peaceful foreign policy and the humanitarian intentions of the state to solve differences through peaceful means. He emphasized the necessity of good-neighborly relations, peace, and tranquillity in the region based on the ancient historical, political, economic, and cultural relations between the peoples of Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Subsequently, Marshal Asghar Khan, expressing gratitude for the invitation and the warm welcome by the Afghan authorities, spoke about the lengthy relations between the peoples of Afghanistan and Pakistan in the course of various (?decades) of life and explained the desire of the peoples of Pakistan to achieve regional peace and tranquillity.

Najib Visits Konduz Province, Attends Conference

LD292000 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1530 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Excerpt] A conference by the party provincial committee of Konduz Province was attended by Comrade Najib, PDPA Central Committee general secretary. Comrades Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, and Lieutenant General Ghulam Faruq Yaqubi, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and minister of state security, were present.

Comrade Najib gave a speech in which he detailed the national reconciliation policy and the consequent duties of the PDPA committees and organizations towards its reconciliation policy. He also spoke about the increasing need to consolidate PDPA unity.

After hearing the basic report and the participants' views, the first part of the conference ended with issuing a resolution.

During the second part of the conference, Comrade Najib was elected to represent the party conference of Konduz Province in the nationwide PDPA conference following a proposal by a number of the conference representatives.

The Konduz party provincial conference elected and introduced its representatives who will participate in the nationwide PDPA conference. the conference participants comprehensively approved Comrade Najib's speech and expressed their full support for the national reconciliation policy and their readiness to carry out their duties. The conference ended in a climate of revolutionary fevor and enthusiasm.

According to another report, Comrade Najib today visited the historical city of Konduz and met elders, ulema, theologians, workers, and citizens. Comrade Najib was accompanied by Comrades Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; and Ghulam Faruq Yaqubi, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and minister of state security.

Comrade Najib took part in a gathering of citizens which was held this morning at Shir Khan School in Konduz. Comrade Najib gave a speech explaining the aims of the national reconciliation policy and the party's and state's measures for ensuring peace in the country. He demanded more unity among the province's people in order to achieve nationwide peace and to end the war and fratricide. Comrade Najib presented medals of the DRA to a number of Konduz citizens who had shown merit in implementing the national reconciliation policy in Konduz Province.

This afternoon Comrade Najib also attended a gathering of workers of Spinzar factory in Konduz Province. He described their important tasks as a prerequisite for national reconciliation and expressed appreciation for their work and struggle.

Comrade Najib returned to Kabul this evening following his visit to Konduz. [passage omitted]

Karachi Notes Soviet Bombing of Civilians in Balkh

BK290805 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say several civilians were killed and many injured in bombing by Soviet-Kabul planes in Balkh Province. According to the reports, the Soviet-Kabul forces attacked Daulatabad area of Balkh Province in the second week of August as part of an operation in search of the mujahidin. Several Soviet-Kabul soldiers were killed in reprisal attacks by the mujahidin. As a result of these reprisal attacks, civilian areas were bombed. Because of the retaliatory attacks, only civilian areas were bombed.

President Invites Opposition Leaders for Talks

BK281637 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Excerpt] President Ershad has said the massive destruction caused by the unprecedented floods this year requires to be faced unitedly.

The president was addressing a big spontaneous gathering at Shathia and Shujanagar in Pabna today. He went there to see for himself the flood situation in the district. He called upon all to face the situation unitedly, rising above all considerations.

President Ershad said he invited leaders of the leading political parties to a discussion table at Banga Bhavan [presidency] on the 7th of next month to deliberate as to how to tackle the grave situation in the country in a body. He said the objective of any politics is to bring welfare of the people and the main consideration of any political party at this time of devastating floods should be to come forward to the aid of the affected people. They should leave aside all political differences and opinions, he added.

The president said as a nation, we always stood united in respect of all national questions including the struggle for establishment of our mother tongue as a state language and war of liberation.

He expressed the hope that leading political parties would join the deliberations to work out the national approach to carry forward the massive relief and rehabilitation program. [passage omitted on Ershad's visit to flooded areas]

Foreign Minister Returns From Overseas Trip

BK300655 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury has said there is a great deal of international concern about the current floods in Bangladesh.

He was talking to newsmen on his return home yesterday evening after a 3-week official visit abroad. Mr Chowdhury said the Governments of Canada, South Korea, and Thailand have expressed sympathies for the flood victims and praised the efforts of the government to overcome the crisis.

The foreign minister said he had fruitful talks in South Korea, Thailand, and Canada for increasing cooperation with Bangladesh in economic fields.

Canada is planning to hold an investment forum for Bangladesh in October during the Commonwealth Conference, and South Korea is giving serious consideration to a proposal for building the second bridge across the River Buriganga.

In Thailand, he had fruitful discussions on economic cooperation between the two countries.

Jatiya Party Official on Flood Relief Work

BK291426 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 2i Aug 87 pp 1, 10

[Excerpt] Jatiya Party Secretary General Shah Moazzem Hussain on Thursday announced the party's decision to postpone its much publicised "grand rally" in Dhaka on August 29 to continue the relief work of the party.

Addressing a Press conference at the Jatiya Party Office Shah Moazzem Hussain said that the rally was postponed to mobilise the party resources and uphold the propeople politics of President Ershad. He claimed that his party had so far distributed relief materials worth taka 40 lakhs. He said that entire thrust of his party's programme would be given to relief operations.

The ruling party Secretary General who is also the Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives blamed the opposition for making "politics with the misery of flood affected people." He deplored that certain political leaders could not rise above their "mean political games" even at this hour of national crisis. He advised the opposition leaders not to "smell politics" in government relief operations.

Shah Moazzem Hussain refuted the opposition charges of misappropriation of relief fund and materials by government as "baseless and tendentious." He said that such charges were being made by those who were known as "thieves of wheat and blankets."

He advised the opposition leaders to compete with Jatiya Party in relief operations but not in political programmes. Criticising the opposition for attacking political meetings of Jatiya Party at different places he said that this party workers had been asked to restrain themselves even in the face of great provocations. He warned the opposition parties "we have the strength to silence your activities. We want you to shun the path of violence."

The ruling party Secretary General hoped that the SKOP [Sramik Karmachari Oikyo Parishad — Workers-Laborers United Council] would postpone its proposed 48-hour strike on September 21 and 22 in the interest of flood affected people. He observed that the members of SKOP should have no reason to go for strike as they had been given maximum facilities. [passage omitted]

Defense Ministry Denies Troops Massing on Border

BK290332 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] The Defense Ministry has described as absolutely baseless the reports in a section of the press that India had amassed troops along its border with Pakistan. A spokesman of the Ministry was commenting on reports emanating from Islamabad. The report was put out by the Pakistan Press International quoting unconfirmed sources.

Sikh 'Terrorists' Arrested After Delhi 'Encounter'

BK301556 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Two dreaded terrorists, Harjinder Singh Jinda and Satnam Singh Baba, were arrested by the Delhi police today following a brief encounter in north Delhi. According to a police spokesman, Jinda was hit by a bullet during the encounter.

The spokesman said that arms, including a Chinese AK-47 assault rifle, a Sten gun, 2 foreign made pistols, and over 150 rounds of ammunition, were recovered from them. Gold and cash worth 3 lakh rupees were also recovered.

Jinda is wanted in the sensational murders of Lalith Makhan, Arjun Das, General A.S. Vaidya, and several other killings. Both the terrorists were involved in a bank dacoity in Ludhiana in which over 5 and 1/2 crore rupees were looted.

Baba is also involved in most of the recent terrorist crimes committed by the so-called Khalistani Commando Force.

Jinda and Baba carried awards of over 1 lakh rupees each on their heads. Jinda was earlier arrested by the Delhi police in January last, but managed to escape from the custody of the Gujarat police.

'Terrorists' Kill Border Security Officer in Punjab

BK300857 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] In Punjab, a Border Security Force [BSF] subinspector was killed and a driver injured when terrorists ambushed a BSF patrol party near Fatehgarh Churian in Gurdaspur District last night. The patrol party travelling in a jeep was attacked by the terrorists on a bridge near Sarchur. The subinspector was injured in the attack and later succumbed in the hospital.

Gandhi Addresses Party on Drought, Punjab Situation

BK281629 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] The prime minister has said that the government is taking tough measures to arrest the price rise. Addressing the general body meeting of the Congress-I parliamentary party in New Delhi today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said that the drought is the biggest calamity of the century the country is facing. It may further push the price rise. He said the administration is being geared up to meet the situation and no laxity will be allowed. A cabinet subcommittee comprising the finance minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari; the agriculture minister, Mr G.S. Dhillon; and the civil supplies minister, Mr H.K.L. Bhagat, has been formed for the purpose.

Mr Gandhi said hoarding has to be curbed and a strong consumer movement built up.

The prime minister said that a number of steps have been taken to fight the drought and meet the flood situation in different parts of the country. He called upon the people to face the challenges with determination.

Mr Gandhi said the AICCI [All India Congress Committee-I] has also set up a drought relief committee and the pradesh [state] Congress-I committees and the district Congress-I committees have been turned into drought relief committees. Central teams have been sent to the affected areas and a clear picture is likely to emerge by Monday.

He said that a meeting of the chief ministers [of the states] has been convened on the 3d of next month to discuss ways and means of fighting drought and flood condition.

Mr Gandhi said that for the purpose of drought relief, the country has been divided into nine zones. One union minister will be in charge for each zone. He will be directly responsible for carrying out drought measures so that relief meant for the affected people would reach them on time.

The prime minister said that he himself will be touring the drought affected areas. He called upon the people to rise to the occasion to help the people in the affected areas. He also urged the public-spirited organizations to mobilize their support for the national task.

Mr Gandhi appealed to his party MP's to donate 1 month salary and the ministers to donate 1 month emolument toward the Congress-I drought relief fund.

Referring to Punjab, the prime minister said that steps taken by the police and the administration have started yielding result and the struggle has to continue against the terrorist activity. He also stressed the need for building a strong public opinion against terrorism.

On the communal problem, the prime minister said that it has been discussed and several suggestions have been made. India has to be a secular state as it is our strength.

On the Sri Lanka agreement, the prime minister said it is one of the biggest achievements of the century. It revealed that the nonaligned countries can solve their problems without any intervention by the superpowers.

The prime minister expressed the hope that with the cooperation of President Jayewardene we will be able to implement the agreement fully.

USSR's Shevchenko on 'Forces of Destabilization'
BK300959 Calcutta ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali 20 Aug 87 p 6

[Text] Valentina Shevchenko, the deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the USSR, told newsmen in Calcutta on Wednesday [19 August] that the Soviet leaders are cautiously watching the current situation in India. They feel that the forces of destabilization are still active in this country.

The Soviet Union would like to see a united and strong India, she said.

A newsman asked: Do you think that India can become united and strong only under Rajiv Gandhi's leadership? The Soviet delegates and the newsmen present there began laughing over the question. Shevchenko's interpreter and Soviet vice consul (Petronin) replied: India can become strong and united under the leadership of anyone who enjoys the support of the majority.

In reply to a question, Shevchenko said that the Soviet Union never gave any direct advice to the two communist parties of India. She has not seen anything in *Pravda* in this regard either. It is our policy not to interfere in the internal affairs of any other state. Shevchenko, accompanied by a delegation, is currently visiting India on a good-will mission.

Defense Ministry Notes Development of Advanced Missiles
BK301619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] India has acquired the necessary skills and capabilities to achieve self-reliance in advanced missiles. A Defense Ministry research and development report says an ambitious program has been taken up to develop integrated guided missiles. Efforts are on to produce short-range and medium-range surface-to-air missiles in the country to meet the immediate needs of a common weapon system for the three services. The country has already developed anti-tank missiles.

Scientists of the Defense Research and Development [DRD] laboratory in Hyderabad have designed and developed a radio proximity fuse which initiates detonation of warheads. A command guided unit, a crucial subsystem in most medium- and short-range surface-to-air system, has also been developed by the DRD scientists.

Oil Installations Hit; Retaliation Bombing

Iraq Raids Oil Installations

LD291617 Tehran IRNA in English 1607 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 29, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes bombed part of Iran's installations and oil fields in the Persian Gulf this morning. Several people were martyred or wounded and some damage was inflicted on the aforesaid sites during the raid.

Spokesman on 'Duty' To Respond

LD291710 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] The Iraqi regime with its attack today against Iranian oil installations in the Persian Gulf has actively started its efforts to reinstate a crisis in the Persian Gulf. According to a report from the Central News Unit, the spokesman for the War Information Headquarters [WIH], announcing this, added: The Iraqi regime's attack against Iranian oil installations today shows Baghdad's lack of any consideration to international efforts to restore peace to the Persian Gulf region.

He added: Events in the Persian Gulf and the actions of the Iraqi regime show that the Baghdad rulers intend to bring the flames of war to the Persian Gulf by any possible means. The extensive military presence of the United States in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman shows that Washington also wants to create a crisis in the Persian Gulf.

The WIH spokesman referred to a UN Security Council session held 2 days ago on the war between Iraq and Iran, and said: Participants in the session did not accept the illogical U.S. views. Such action has now become an excuse for the United States on the one hand, to expand its activities in the Persian Gulf, and on the other to pressure the United Nations. He added: The attacks by the Iraqi regime on oil installations today, considering these facts, doubtlessly took place in coordination with the United States in order to defeat the efforts of the UN secretary general. This is a defeat for which the United States is also responsible.

He continued: The Islamic Republic of Iran, in compliance with its basic and unchangeable positions, opposes the creation of crises in the Persian Gulf. At the same time it considers it its duty to crushingly respond to the Iraqi attacks today. Any reverberations from the decisive responses of the warriors of Islam are completely the responsibility of the war-mongering Iraqi regime.

In conclusion, he warned international organizations, particularly the United Nations, to decisively oppose the recent agitating activities of the Iraqi regime, particularly today's attacks against Iranian oil installations.

Two Iraqi Planes Downed 29 Aug

LD300506 Tehran IRNA in English 0504 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 30, IRNA — Iranian anti-aircraft gunners shot down two intruding Iraqi warplanes over the Persian Gulf waters at 07:45 and 13:13 GMT Saturday, said a joint staff statement here today. Nothing is yet known of the wreckage of the aircraft or the fate of their pilots.

IRGC Downs Iraqi Aircraft

LD302054 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] The general headquarters of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps announced: An intruding Iraqi plane, which violated the airspace of the eastern Azarbayjan Province on Sunday afternoon, was downed by the effective fire of the air defense units stationed in the region. So far, there is no information on the fate of the pilot. It is probable that this plane crashed into the waters of Lake Urmia.

Red Alert on 'Possible' Air Raid

LD300848 Tehran IRNA in English 0845 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 30 IRNA — Red siren was sounded here at 12:00 hours local time (08:30 GMT) today warning against possible Iraqi air raids. The alert was announced here months after Iraq halted attacks on Iranian cities and towns. The situation returned to normal after four minutes. Iraq has recently resumed its raids on Iran's oil and industrial centers in an attempt to escalate the tension in the Persian Gulf.

Velayati Letter to UN

LD300957 Tehran IRNA in English 0948 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 30 IRNA — Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in a letter to the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar Sunday stressed that Iraqi resumption of attacks on Iranian oil installations in the Persian Gulf will not remain unanswered.

The letter said that Iran's retaliatory measures would include all facilities which serve to equip Iraq, adding that the Baghdad government would shoulder the responsibility for expanding the war in the Persian Gulf.

Referring to the Saturday Iraqi attack on Iran's oil installations in the Persian Gulf, Velayati noted that the attacks launched in the aftermath of Iraqi attacks against Iranian residential areas indicated Iraq's decision to expand the war in various dimensions, including in the Persian Gulf. The letter stressed that whenever international efforts, especially those of the U.N. secretary general, were aimed at containing the war and restoring tranquillity, Iraq had practically taken a hostile position and intensified its military operations on land, in air and at sea.

It added that the interim peace earlier due to a halt in attacks against ships and oil installations, had paved the way for the gradual restoration of peace in the Persian Gulf. But, the letter said, Iraq once again fanned the flame while Iran even after recent U.S. instigations, preserved its patience and adhered to its commitment to safeguard security and free navigation in the Persian Gulf.

Stressing that under present circumstances Iran could not remain indifferent towards new Iraqi aggressions, Velayati's letter said, "No doubt Iran will not leave these attacks unanswered and Iran's retaliation, as officially announced may also include facilities which equip Iraq and beef up its war machine." This retaliatory measure, the letter added, as long as Iraq does not abandon its attacks on ships and oil installations in the Persian Gulf, will be continued.

The letter stressed that while the Persian Gulf has been prepared for unlimited escalation of war after U.S. military presence, international efforts should be unified to gradually eliminate the present crisis. The letter reiterated that the only solution to the Persian Gulf crisis is an end to the attacks on ships, and impartial position by countries supporting Iraq, and withdrawal of foreign forces before it would be too late.

Al-Basrah Residents Warned
LD301047 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] In reply to the recent mischiefs of the aggressor Iraqi regime in bombing our country's workers' areas, and economic and industrial installations, Al-Basrah's industrial, military, and economic center will be fired on by the fighters of Islam during the next few hours.

Announcing the news, a military commander at the Khatem ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the center for guiding the operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, called on the people of Al-Basrah who live near military and industrial centers of the city to leave these areas as soon as possible, so that they will be safe from the retaliatory fire of the forces of Islam.

Al-Basrah, Umm Qasr Shelled
LD301652 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] In response to the recent atrocities of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime, at 1500 today the mighty artillery fire of the fighters of Islam pounded the economic installations of Al-Basrah and the oil installations of (Ezergan). Also at 1200, the artillery fire of the Guards Corps of Islam pounded the military and economic centers of the Umm Qasr port in Iraq. As the result, heavy losses and damage were inflicted on these installations.

Iraqi Planes Bomb Industrial Sites
LD301051 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Iraqi planes this morning raided several industrial and workshop establishments in Hamadan and East Azarbayjan. The raids resulted in some damage to these units and several workers were martyred or injured.

Iraq Bombs Gachsaran Site
LD301658 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] According to a report by the *Islamic Republic News Agency*, an industrial unit in Gachsaran was attacked by the aggressor Iraqi aircraft this afternoon. As a result of this attack a number of our compatriots were either wounded or martyred.

Iraqi Eco-Military Targets Shelled
LD311639 Tehran IRNA in English 1616 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Aug. 31, IRNA — Iran's long-range artillery fire shelled economic, industrial and oil installations in southern Iraq Sunday and Monday in retaliation for the bombing of industrial centers in Iran.

Iraq's paper plants, Al-Zubayr oil installations, training center of 'Muhammad al-Qasim' division 5, naval bases around Umm Qasr and Al-Basrah, Al-Harithah power station, an aluminium plant in Al-Basrah, and a matches factory in Umm Qasr sustained damage in Iranian reprisal shelling.

Iran's Muslim forces also shelled the tactical headquarters of Iraq's 3rd, 4th, 6th and 7th Corps as well as Umm Qasr-Al-Basrah, Al-Basrah-Al-Zubayr, Al-Basrah-Al-'Amarah and Al-Basrah-Nasiriyah supply routes.

Majlis Speaker on Need To Respond to U.S. Presence
LD292022 Tehran in English to Europe
1930 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and the representative of the imam in the Supreme Defense Council, pointing to the deployment of the 'Ashura epic-makers [reference to participants in Mecca riots] and stating the fact that the extensive presence of the U.S., French, and the British in the region is an alarm danger for our nation said: We should respond this by the presence of the people and the youth on the scene. [sentence as heard] He was speaking in a meeting with the personnel of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. In a message declared that the appropriate response for the presence of the world imperialism in the region is the presence of the devoted forces of the mobilization forces which is a slap to their face. [sentence as heard]

Rafiqdust Threatens Missile Attacks on Baghdad
LD301936 Tehran IRNA in English 1931 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 30, IRNA — Baghdad will be levelled to the ground by missiles, if the Iraqi regime resumes bombing of Iranian cities, warned minister of Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdust here Sunday.

Added the IRGC minister, today Iran's retaliatory power is more stronger than ever and it can fire several lethal missiles each day on the enemy capital.

Speaking to a group of Muslim combatants, Rafiqdust said that the Islamic Republic is on the threshold of victory. "We will chase the aggressor inside Iraq until Saddam Husayn is toppled," he emphasised. "The aggressor should be brought to trial," concluded Rafiqdust.

IRGC Minister on Submarines, Military Plans

LD272133 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT 27 Aug 87

[Live phone-in program with Mohsen Rafiqdust, Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps minister; Commodore Malekzadegan, commander of the Navy; Kamal Kharrazi, chief of the War Information Headquarters; and Engineer Alizadeh — conducted in the studio and moderated by unidentified announcer]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted on introductory remarks and minister Rafiqdust's brief description of his ministry's functions]

[Announcer] This is a question for His Excellency Commodore Malekzadegan to answer. A brother fighter asks: If there is a provocation by the United States and war breaks out in the Persian Gulf, is the Islamic Republic of Iran's Navy prepared to confront it?

[Malekzadegan] During the imposed war, our dear and heroic nation has witnessed the Navy's constant preparedness in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. Our war in the Persian Gulf began before the expansionist invasion by the enemy against our Islamic homeland. The mercenary Saddam declared that the 1975 agreement was totally unacceptable to him. I want to say that during the imposed war, we have been at war with Iraq, a confirmed U.S. agent. We cannot say what we will do if the United States starts a war in the Persian Gulf, because during the imposed war we have also been indirectly at war with the United States. Now, God willing, our faithful personnel are convinced of the need to be prepared — on land, sea, and air, as well as the marines — and have made efforts toward that end.

The Navy enjoys a high level of preparedness. I can assure our dear nation that we will steadfastly confront any kind of conspiracy in this region from any country, particularly the world-devouring United States which leads all the region's reactionary countries and wants to create tension in this vital and sensitive area. We are ready to defend our territorial waters and the sensitive vital resources and interests of our Islamic homeland in this region to the last man and to the last drop of our blood.

[Announcer] Mr Malekzadegan, another question has been raised. A brother asks how successful the minesweeping operation by the Iranian Navy has been and why the world's media have said that the United States is weaker than Iran regarding minesweeping.

[Malekzadegan] The Iranian Navy uses three methods to sweep mines: helicopters, minesweeping frogmen, and floating craft. This is all the forces and fleets we used in the operation. I must say that it is rare for any country in Europe, Asia, or the world to use all three methods for minesweeping. [passage omitted rephrasing the same sentence] The reason we said we have completed the minesweeping operation is that we used various methods. Thanks be to God, we succeeded.

[Announcer] Your Excellency, a caller wants you to explain a news report which some media publicized, saying that an Iranian military vessel disrupted a military formation protecting a Kuwaiti oil tanker.

[Malekzadegan] Over the length of the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman, our ships carry out patrol, control, identification, and special mission operations which have been assigned to them. Over the 2,000 km of this region several of our vessels are constantly on patrol missions in areas assigned to them. What was announced was pure fabrication. Our units are in the area. One of our vessels in the middle of the Persian Gulf was on patrol when the U.S. Fleet was sighted. It followed the fleet while carrying out its own patrol. It made no move that could be interpreted as provocative. The patrol carried out its normal mission in the region. Our vessels also patrol outside the Persian Gulf — in the Gulf of Oman. In the coming days they may meet other military ships and units in the region. We have not made any move which might disrupt their formation. We are ready to carry out instructions; our projects are ready. So long as the mercenary enemy in the Persian Gulf does not make any move against us, we will not carry make any move of our own. This is in accordance with what the honorable authorities of Iran have declared. If we see any such move, then not only we will disrupt the formation of these units — the formation of the escorts — but we will also destroy them.

[Announcer] Thank you very much. A listener has said that there is talk now about defensive self-sufficiency. We are hearing a lot about the role of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps [IRGC] in this connection. The listener would be pleased if you could kindly give more details on this subject, Mr Rafiqdust.

[Rafiqdust] In the short time we have before the next newscast, I will make some brief remarks and ask my brother, Engineer Alizadeh, to give more details on this subject to our people. I do not think Alizadeh will have a chance to speak before the news. In connection with self-sufficiency industries, our aim is to achieve complete defensive self-sufficiency, as far as the greatest and most complex weapons needed are concerned. We have decided that the Islamic Republic should build whatever is needed to defend itself and to be active in all branches of military industries. I hope that after the news it will be explained how 15 industrial groups, from rockets to food, have been set up in the Guards Corps Ministry. If we were to give details about each, it would require several programs. However, some details will be given here. I should say that every step and every task connected with this system has been completely successful, thanks to the prayers of the imam and the efforts and cooperation of all those in charge of the government. Not once has there been an occasion that when we started something we failed to achieve 100 percent success. One example of this was the "Martyrdom" maneuvers which were carried out with our own capacities for manufacturing our facilities. It is this very capacity for manufacturing that caused the world to take notice.

[Announcer] Thank you very much for your remarks. As you said, our dear brother Alizadeh will provide more details on this

question in the second part of the program. Meanwhile, Mr Malekzadegan, although we would have liked to have you here longer, it seems that you must to to a meeting. Thank you for particpating in this program. We hope to have you on another program soon. God be with you. [passage omitted containing newscast and music]

[Alizadeh] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Salutations to the holy imams, to our dear imam, the martyr-nurturing ummah, the dear fighters of Islam. God willing, we hope that by mobilizing research and production facilities, we may be able to better carry out our role and basic duty, that is to equip Islam's dear fighters. In this connection, the idea of self-sufficiency in the Guards Corps industries arose with the start of the imposed war in the form of research and repair facilities. The idea of self-sufficiency is one of the characteristics of the Hezbollah ummah. Whenever they find themselves in a jam, they themselves devise a solution, and, thanks be to God, they have always chosen the best way of solving the problem. It is in this connection — in the Army divisions and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps bases — that the idea of self-sufficiency quietly took hold. After the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Ministry was formed, a ministry called the Deputy Ministry for Industries was formed. Now, 4 years after the (?formative) years of this ministry, we are able to announce this news to our dear people. We have had a lot of successes, thanks be to God. Thirteen industrial groups in the research and production spheres are now busy working — and here I must mention the cooperation and role played by universities, research and science centers, public industries, the private sector, and even vocational schools. At the moment we are working in the following industrial fields: rockets, aircraft, arsenals, munitions, the chemical-bacteriological-nuclear industries [shimiyayi-microbi-hasteh'i], vehicle manufacturing plants, lasers and optics, communications, and electronics. There are two sections called special industries; another section backs up technical protection. Another section is called food industries. These 13 sections are the basis of our (?research) sections. Together they carry out work in various industrial fields. In time, hopefully, I could if necessary explain what each group researches and what it produces. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified caller] With your permission, I have two questions for Mr Kharrazi. As he is in charge of the War Information Headquarters, can he tell us what has been done so far to foil the plots of foreign mass media? The second question is about the presence of foreign correspondents on the battlefronts. As their presence on the fronts costs something, how much of the truth about the war have they reported to the world so far? [passage omitted containing music, announcer asking Kharrazi to answer]

[Kharrazi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted repeating the question] Our equipment is of a certain type. We have our own radio-TV system — our extra-territorial radio-TV system — news agency, and the international telex system of our news agency. There are certain channels of communication which are not at our disposal but which are open to international mass media. Naturally, we rely on all our facilities to neutralize the effects of news conspiracies by others against us. On the whole, thanks to the experience gained during this period, our media and news systems have been relatively successful in communicating with international media, in reporting the news, thus quickly foiling their plots. At present, we see that IRNA is able to report the latest news to the international media as a credible news agency. The quantity of news reported by this news agency has increased a great deal compared with the early days. They rely on the news agency telex and our radio to broadcast the news about the revolution and the Islamic Republic. Our communication with international media, radio stations, TV networks, and the press has improved greatly. The amount of news sent from Iran by way of our own sources has increased a lot.

Regarding the presence of foreign correspondents at the fronts, as we are forced to convey the facts about the fronts through foreigners and foreign correspondents, it naturally makes a lot of difference to them whether we report the news or whether they come to see for themselves. Therefore, we have programs allowing foreign correspondents to go there. They are taken to the fronts so that they can see things at firsthand and report the news. This program has been extremely successful in reflecting the fighters' operations on the fronts. For those operations when we were able to allow correspondents to go for a time — and many correspondents have come and gone — the amount of publicity given to those operations abroad has been considerable. This, in any case, has been extremely effective in reflecting the bravery of our fighters and the resistance of our people and their perseverance toward, God willing, the holy defense. [passage omitted on a question about the War Week agenda, which Kharrazi says he will announce later; also, questions and answers about conscription]

[Announcer] I thank our dear citizen who wants you, Mr Rafiqdust, to elaborate on the dimensions of the grand "Martyrdom" maneuvers.

[Rafiqdust] The grand "Martyrdom" maneuvers, which were successfully accomplished with God's help and the Hezbollah ummah's help, were accomplished with complete success and beyond our expectations. They were in fact an assessment of the capabilities of the IRGC. Our Navy entered the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman to carry out its duty and mission alongside the Armed Forces, Navy, and [regular] Army.

While closely watching this exercise, we were surprised that is was conducted with so much beauty, discipline, and precision. Both our enemies and we were assured that the Persian Gulf is not an arena for masquerades by satanic powers, especially our enemies who were keeping the "Martyrdom" exercise under observation via their satellites [passage omitted on desire to settle the feud with Saddam Husayn on the battlefield] Now, it has been proved to us and to them that the Persian Gulf offers a wider field of action and capabilities for us. Indeed, we have more interest in it because, in principle, it is a greater source of pride for us to come to grips with the great power of the world. As our fighters in the battlefronts say, this is more enjoyable. [passage omitted repeating the same ideas]

[Announcer] Thank you very much. A question has been raised regarding the countries which supported in one way or another the aspirations of the revolution from the beginning, like Syria and Libya. Recently, they reacted against the decision of the

Arab foreign ministers conference. In principle, Mr Kharrazi, what impact has the conference decision had on international policymaking calculations?

[Kharrazi] Countries other than those you named — Algeria, the UAE, and Oman — also opposed the decision which was to be imposed on the Arab League conference. One issue must be explained here. In principle, U.S. and Arab reaction has constantly tried in this imposed war to establish two axes: a war between Shi'ites and Sunnis, and a war between Arabs and Persians. The presence of the forces of progressive countries and their support for us in these conferences truly assists us in preventing U.S. and Arab reaction from establishing these axes.

Specifically, the Syrian team put up stiff resistance in this recent conference. It had a very tough confrontation with Iraq and Saudi Arabia, which were trying to have very strong positions adopted against us. They even were proposing that Arab countries sever diplomatic relations with us. However, the resistance put up by the countries mentioned above, especially by Syria, Libya, and Algeria, did not allow them to get their plan approved. [passage omitted repeating same]

In particular, after the Mecca tragedy they tried hard — and they were supported by the Americans — to portray this war as a war between Persians and Arabs. We respect the support of these countries. Naturally, their support has had great impact on international policymaking trends and has changed the positions which our enemies would have adopted against us.

[Announcer] A brother asks about the country's manufacture of weapons and what steps have been taken to manufacture various weapons in the future.

[Alizadeh] We have assessed our war needs. We have started with the most simple. For example, in the Revolution Guards Corps, we started manufacturing grenades and became self-sufficient. Then, we built mortars and became self-sufficient. We worked on katyusha rockets and became self-sufficient. We are now working on cannons. This year, we will become self-sufficient in making many cannon parts. Concerning naval industries, whatever the Corps needs, we will manufacture ourselves, at any level, of any quality. We have started manufacturing long-range rockets [mushak]. God willing, our dear nation will be informed of the outcome. Strategic antitank TOW and (?Malutka) rockets are also being built. One of them has been manufactured for some time and the other was recently started. God willing it will soon be completed.

Regarding aviation industries, we are manufacturing an extremely large number of drones, which are doing a lot of work for us. Recently, one of planes — which was manned — was given a test flight. God willing, it will enter production.

Regarding communications, we are manufacturing various types of wireless equipment. We recently entered the laser technology field. We have also entered the optical field, which is the manufacture of various types of binoculars. [passage omitted on the Corps entering the food industry for the troops' provisions; also a forthcoming exhibition]

[Passage omitted on caller asking about the results of the "Nasr-7" operations with Rafiqdust repeating known results]

[Announcer] We have a question here on the telephone and, if you permit, we can listen to it.

[Unidentified caller] Good day to the program, government, and people. I have a question for Mr Rafiqdust. Could you please ask him this: Several months ago, on a live television program, he said that if Iraq resorts to mischief once again, it will have to face our missiles. What did this mean?

[Announcer] Mr Rafiqdust, a question has been put to you about your remarks on one of the radio-television programs.

[Rafiqdust] As I informed our great and beloved people, if the puny, weak, and falling enemy resorts to mischief by resuming the war of cities, our missile retaliation will not be like it was in the past. There is such a great difference between our missile power today from last year that we really do not want the war of cities to resume. We have always said that it should be carried out in the theaters of war where its fate would be determined. Considering the bad experiences we have had with the enemy — recently it has been making mischief by attacking our economic centers and resources, and perhaps this could be considered a preliminary to further misdeeds — if, God forbid, the war of cities should resume, our nation will see that this time our missile response will not consist merely of one missile every few days. Instead, we will destroy Baghdad with our missiles.

[Announcer] Right. Another question that has been asked is: What kinds of things have been produced by the military industries of the Guards Corps in relation to the imposed war and what are your plans for better equipping the fighters of Islam? Mr Alizadeh, will you please answer?

[Alizadeh] In relation to war productions, we are now busy producing drones in large quantities. These are for reconnaissance purposes and bombing raid assessments. After several years of work and efforts by our air industry group, we have recently succeeded in testing two types of aircraft which, God willing, will be on the production line soon. In the naval field and facilities connected with war relief, every year we are building several thousand boats of various types and sizes. It can now be said that these boats make up about 100 percent or 98 percent of the current naval strength of the Revolution Guards Corps.

Of course, we have been busy for 3 or 4 years with building various types of submarines, some of which are now being mass produced. These have very special characteristics, special to the Persian Gulf. They have been designed and built specially for the Persian Gulf for preventing the onslaught of the enemy's fleet, as well as for attacking and destroying these fleets — both on the water and under the water. From about the start of the war until now, we have built the biggest bridges that have ever been built in wartime, including the Kheybar bridge and those big bridges used in the "Val-Fajr-8" operation and bridges such as the martyr [name indistinct] bridge which we ourselves installed over the Arvand River. This was in place there for about 6 months. One of the special characteristics of this bridge was that it could be set up during the night in approximately 15-20 minutes and

it would stay there until early the next morning, at which point it would take 15 minutes to remove it. This bridge had an approximately 80-tonne capacity in order to bear the weight of trailers, loaders, bulldozers, tanks, guns, and so forth. The installation of these bridges over the Arvand River was achieved by those working in the Guards Corps industries, thanks to divine miracles.

In addition, we are building observation towers up to 75 meters high and installing them on the fronts in other places. We are also building chemical showers for snow pollution [barf-aludigi] and equipment for snow pollution, such as serums, tablets, masks, antichemical clothing, and many weapons, such as mortar launchers, mini-katyusha and katyusha rockets. These are now on the production line. We are also producing various types of bombs. Last year we manufactured a lot of very heavy bombs for the Air Force and they used these bombs. On various occasions they dropped these bombs on the enemy's brigades and divisions. During some of these raids, a large number of the enemy's forces were destroyed. We manufactured and designed these bombs in Iran. In the munitions field, it could be said that we are nearly self-sufficient in mortar-launcher manufacturing. We are mass producing munitions for guns, rockets, and mini-katyushas. God willing, we will reach self-sufficiency in this area. As for transport vehicles, last year we reconditioned more than 200 personnel carriers. We changed their engines — these were Russians personnel carriers — and we reconditioned them with other foreign engines. In the communications field, we are now producing various types of radios, relays, signalling systems, and boosters. In other fields, such as the production of various types of bridges, we are now producing these and mobile jetties with the help of state sector industries.

Regarding future programs, I should point out that the trend that the Guards Corps industries has adopted in connection with the production of war needs — taking into consideration the present state of foreign exchange today — is to make use of existing domestic industries and the unions — metalworkers, turners — most of whom have little work or have no work to do at all due to the currency shortage. Therefore, we are assigning to these industries the manufacture of a large volume of things which used to be imported. They are receiving grants and currency. We are also working on technical design qualities. In this year we will spend more than 10 billion tumans on production. This sum will be much more if we have to resort to buying material abroad. That is, we would be saving something like $900 million this year from the budget that has been allocated. This is quite a sum. [passage omitted on numbers of people involved]

[Announcer] More questions have been asked, Mr Rafiqdust. The first concerns coordination between the Army and the Guards in operations.

[Rafiqdust] In connection with the Gulf of Oman and the Persian Gulf, if an aggression occurs, then no doubt the Navy of the Islamic Republic and the Navy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps will begin operations together under the command of the Khatem al-Anbiya' Headquarters. Regarding the question on the Persian Gulf, I will reply to one part of it and the other will be answered by Mr Kharrazi, because this concerns more that simply the military aspect. The question as to whether or not the United States will enter the war in the Persian Gulf should be answered by Mr Kharrazi, but our answer is that we are assuming that the enemy will resort to some mischief in the Persian Gulf. We have prepared ourselves for any kind of mischief by the enemy. We are certain that if mischief occurs, we will firmly respond to the enemy. Mr Kharrazi can reply to the rest.

[Kharrazi] No doubt the Americans have certain objectives in being present in this region, perhaps to create tension and spread the war. This is a policy that Iraq and the United States have formulated together. They want to make the Iran-Iraq war spread to the Persian Gulf region, to other countries. Naturally, we must be prepared, just as Mr Rafiqdust said, in confronting this policy and potential aggressions on their part. We have to expect that anything is likely to happen. Their presence must be viewed as a source of tension and aggression. We hope that a clash will not occur there. However, we have made preparations and we will confront even the smallest of aggressions by the United States and others. [passage omitted on announcer repeating time and telephone numbers of program]

[Announcer] Among other questions addressed to Mr Rafiqdust, an injured brother from the Baqiat Allah of the Guards Corps has asked the following: Considering the advances made by our fighters on the battlefronts, could you please tell us what proportion of our territory is at this moment still in the hands of the Iraqi Ba'thists?

[Rafiqdust] Yes. Parts of our dear Islamic homeland are still occupied by the enemy. This is documented proof of the enemy's aggression. When they occupied Khorramshahr, they wrote on the walls, doors, and so forth in Arabic: We will remain here forever. When the enemy was thrown out of the major occupied areas, thanks to the efforts, self-sacrifices, and martyrdoms of the combatants of Islam -- if Iraq was telling the truth in saying it was not the aggressor -- then it should have withdrawn from all the territories it was occupying. Nowshahr, this dear part of the Islamic homeland, and some of the heights are occupied by the enemy. In comparison, we have liberated many more areas of Iraqi territory. I should add that, God willing, we will gradually liberate all of Iraq's territory and pass it on to the Iraqi nation. We are not aggressors and we do not want to go there and remain there forever. However, the parts that we have liberated are greater than those parts of our territory under enemy occupation. Of course, God willing, we will also liberate these areas. [passage omitted on questions regarding student participation in war, financial assistance to fighters, and the distribution of the people's donations]

Defense Minister Announces New Mine, Missile

LD281722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] Defense Minister Brigadier General Jalali, addressing the Friday prayer participants in Mashhad, stressed that Iran will answer any crisis created by oppressive powers in the Persian Gulf.

He said the country's defense industries are very capable and said: Because of the sacrifices made by the children of the

revolution, we have made progress toward self-sufficiency. Iranian experts have built a type of mine that the enemy can not identify or discover.

He added: As a result of our military experts' efforts, the number of types of ammunition we manufacture has risen from 7 in 1979 to 47. This is very important for maintaining our foreign reserve level.

He also announced that the Defense Ministry's self-sufficient industries are making a new missile and stressed that if Saddam begins the war of cities, this missile will be used.

Warns Kuwait 'Patience Limited'

LD291448 Tehran IRNA in English 1432 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., Aug. 29, IRNA — Iran's Defence Minister Brigadier General Mohammad Hoseyn Jalali criticised the Kuwaiti Government for its moves in the Persian Gulf and warned that Iran's patience and tolerance is limited.

Speaking at a joint flag-hoisting ceremony of the Army and disciplinary forces here the minister said Iran will strongly counter any tension created by the superpowers in the region while maintaining its power superiority at the battlefields.

Iran has time and again announced that it is capable on keeping the Strait of Hormuz open, and that the strait should be open for all except Iraq, he made it clear.

General Jalali reiterated that it is only Iran which can end the war noting that the Islamic Republic will obivously continue its fight until it attains its rights.

Warns 'Oppressors' at Fronts

LD300754 Tehran IRNA in English 0740 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., Aug. 30, IRNA — Defence Minister Brigadier General Jalali said here Sunday that "Iran's ultimate respond [as received] to the nonsense of world oppressors will be given at war fronts."

The defence minister stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran does not advocate war but rather security in the region. However, he pointed out, there is a limit to Iran's patience.

Jalali who was speaking at Mashhad airport described his three-day visit to the province on the occasion of the government week as successful.

UK Evasive on Iraqi Links to Kuwaiti Reflagging

LD281927 Tehran IRNA in English 1857 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] London, Aug. 28, IRNA — The Department of Transport refuses to deny or confirm reports that some of the Kuwaiti vessels being reflagged under British colours include disguised Iraqi ships originally turned down by the British Government. "It is not our policy to talk about application," a senior spokesman told IRNA Friday.

The spokesmen's evasiveness followed the National Union of Seamen repeating its claim that some of the Kuwaiti tankers seeking re-registration are Iraqi tankers under the guise of its Arab ally.

In a letter to the London *Guardian* Friday, spokesman Mike Gibson attacked the press for failing to address the "real issues" over reflagging and had not the British authorities considered that "Iraq transferred the registration of its tanker fleet to Kuwait." "For a small country, Kuwait seems to possess a large number of tankers," he said.

Gibson had told IRNA Thursday that it was at the beginning of its war against Iran that Iraq moved to transfer its vessels to the flag of its arch ally "in a bid to stop them being possible Iranian targets" and this was the reason why their ships had been attacked.

Shipping sources in London have also said that they were aware that a number of Iraqi vessels had been disguised as Kuwaiti ships.

The seamen firmly reject the government's claim that it is unable to intervene to prevent the re-registration of tankers and say that it had already "turned down" previous requests from Iraq.

The Department of Transport spokesman said that he could not say if there had been any applications from Iraqis, but "even if they have, as a matter of policy, we don't talk about it."

Gibson said that the reflagging was a "squalid sham" and a "maneuver carried out by a weak-kneed government anxious to demonstrate its grovelling subservience to every whim of U.S. foreign policy." "Where were the U.S. and Royal (British) Navies," he asked when the "bulk of attacks on internaitonal shipping in the (Persian) Gulf have been carried out by Iraq ?"

Cypriot-Registered Tanker Reportedly Hits Mine

NC300549 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] According to AFP from Manama, Bahrain, Persian Gulf shipping sources have announced that a Cypriot-registered tanker probably collided with a mine in the area yesterday evening. These sources, which could not provide the name of the tanker, added that towing boats are trying to locate its exact position.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Communique No 2,942

LD281743 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 28, IRNA — Iranian Naval forces checked five commercial ships and three tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Thursday but allowed them to proceed. No Iraqi-bound cargo

were found on board, said Joint Staff Communique 2942 issued here Friday.

The Communique said that the Muslim combatants destroyed several enemy group bunkers in the northwestern operational region over the past 24 hours and killed and wounded a number of Iraqi troops.

The retaliatory artillery fire of Muslim forces of Iran in Panjwin and Halaleh silenced the fire of Iraqi tanks and contained their movements yesterday.

The artillery fire of Muslim forces of Iran halted the activities of Iraqi engineering units and set one of their ammunition depots afire in the western operational region yesterday where the enemy sustained losses and damage when Muslim combatants' patrol units attacked the enemy defensive positions. All units returned to bases safely.

The Communique also said that a group of Iraqi infantrymen in the same region tried to approach Iranian forces' positions but were forced to flee before carrying out any action.

In the southern operational region, the Communique said, the Muslim combatants' artillery fire destroyed several group bunkers killing and injuring several Iraqi mercenaries.

Communique No 2,943

LD291634 Tehran IRNA in English 1559 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 29, IRNA — Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and inspected eight cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Friday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying goods for Iraq, said a military communique here today.

The 2943rd Joint Staff Communique said that several Iraqi solders were killed or wounded and an enemy tank, a multiple rocket launcher, four observation posts and a number of gun emplacements were destroyed in parts of the battlefields in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants yesterday.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces continued combat operations against Iraqi troops in parts of the southern fronts Friday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying a command jeep and 10 gun emplacements of theirs.

In the western fronts, Iraqi patrol convoys attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Helaleh and Qasr-e Shirin Friday, sustained heavy casualties and were forced to flee when shelled by Iranian forces.

Iranian artillery fire inflicted heavy losses on Iraqi motorized units moving in Naft-e Shah, Sumar, Helaleh and north of Hawr Hawizah yesterday.

Iraqi long-range artillery fire shelled the southern Iranian port cities of Khorramshahr and Abadan several times over the past 24 hours, wounding some civilians and damaging a number of houses, the communique concluded.

Communique No 2,944

LD301736 Tehran IRNA in English 1633 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 30, IRNA — Residential areas of the southern Iranian cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr (Khuzestan Province) were subjected to Iraq's heavy artillery fire on Saturday and Sunday as a result of which some residential units were damaged, said communique number 2944 released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here today.

It added Iran's Muslim combatants inflicted heavy losses in men and equipment on Iraqi troops throughout the fronts of the Iraqi-imposed war Saturday.

The communique said Iranian combatants reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts yesterday, killing a number of enemy soldiers and destroying five vehicles and several heavy weapons of theirs.

In the western fronts, Iranian artillery fire killed a number of Iraqi soldiers, destroyed several group bunkers and damaged enemy vehicles, supply routes and bridges Saturday.

Iraqi forces suffered heavy casualties and losses when Iraqi motorized columns moving in Sumar came under heavy artillery fire of Iran's Muslim combatants.

Reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters in Panjwin, northwestern fronts, and in Mehran, western fronts, were checked by Iran's heavy anti-aircraft fire yesterday.

In the southern fronts, Iraqi engineering operations were halted and one enemy munition dump as well as five bunkers and observation posts were destroyed Saturday by heavy Iranan artillery fire.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces pounded enemy positions in parts of the southern fronts with heavy weapons fire Saturday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying 10 group bunkers of theirs.

Meanwhile, Iran's navy gunboats intercepted and inspected six cargo ships and seven oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Saturday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying cargo for Iraq the communique said.

Communique No 2,945

LD311525 Tehran IRNA in English 1512 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 31, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed military and economic installations in the northern Iraqi town of Dukan, Irbil Province at 13:10 hours local time (09:40 GMT) Monday. The fighters returned safely to bases after inflicting substantial losses on the enemy, said a military communique here Monday.

The 2945th communique of the Joint Staff Command said that an Iraqi warplane was shot in the northwestern region by Iranian anti-aircraft fire at 15:41 hours local time (12:11 GMT) Sunday

and was seen crashing in the waters of Lake Urmia (West Azarbayjan Province).

Muslim combatants of Iran continued to shell Iraqi positions and installations all throughout the fronts yesterday, killing and wounding several enemy soldiers, said the communique. Two tanks, a machine gun, four observation posts and some gun emplacements of Iraqi forces were set ablaze and destroyed, it added.

The communique said that an Iraqi patrol group attempting to penetrate Iranian Muslim combatants' positions in Sardasht operational region in western fronts last night was forced to flee.

In Helaleh, Naft-e Shah, Sumar and Mehran fronts, also in western fronts, movement of Iraqi vehicle columns was checked and shelled by the heavy fire of Muslim combatants and sustained considerable damage, said the communique.

Iran's Gendarmerie forces killed and wounded some Iraqi troops in southern fronts, destroying over 10 gun emplacements and a heavy vehicle of theirs, concluded the communique.

Further Reportage on Violent Incidents in Karachi

Press Note Says 145 Arrested

BK281617 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] A meeting was held in Karachi today under the chairmanship of Federal Housing and Works Minister Haji Mohammad Hanif Taiyub. The situation and ways to restore peace and amity in the city were reviewed. The meeting was attended by members of the federal and provincial assemblies, members of the Consultative Council of Karachi Metropolitan Corporation, ulema, notables, traders, officials, and students' representatives. The meeting made several decisions to reduce tension and promote fraternity and affection among various strata of the people. The participants at the meeting appealed to peace-loving and patriotic citizens to cooperate with the government in restoring law and order in affected areas and to identify the miscreants so that they may be severely punished.

Haji Mohammad Hanif Taiyub later visited the recently disturbed areas. Talking to the people, he cautioned that antisocial elements are trying to defame the country by resorting to violence in Karachi. However, patriotic people will not let them do so.

In a press note issued in Karachi this evening, the provincial government said that recently a number of serious ethnic clashes have occurred in Karachi and Hyderabad. Some elements pitted one brother against another for the purpose of reinforcing their own interests. This not only resulted in the death of a number of innocent people and hundreds of thousand rupees worth of damage to private and public properties, but also severely affected the economic, industrial, and commercial activities of the province. These incidents have created a feeling of insecurity among the people.

The provincial government has tried to check ethnic hatred and intolerance and to promote unity and integrity among all Pakistanis living in the province. These tragic incidents took place after the start of the holy month of Muharram. As a consequence, the government must take stern measures against the groups and individuals who are fanning ethnic violence and vitiating the atmosphere of peace and tranquillity. Therefore, the provincial government has ordered arrest of all persons in the province who are responsible for murdering people and destroying property during the last few months. Acting on these directions, the administration has so far arrested 56, 69, and 20 persons in Karachi, Hyderabad, and Sukkur Divisions, respectively.

The curfew hours were relaxed in Karachi District East areas today so that the people could perform Friday prayers in their mosques.

Ethnic Party Leaders Arrested

BK291208 Hong Kong AFP in English
1156 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Karachi, Aug 29 (AFP) — Police have arrested more than 250 political activists in a bid to check ethnic violence which has claimed about 30 lives across southern Pakistan in the last three days, police sources said Saturday.

Police raided the homes of activists belonging to three ethnic parties — the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), the Mohajir Ittehad Tehrik (MIT) and the Pakhtoon-Punjabi Ittehad (PPI) in Karachi, Hyderabad, and Sukkur Friday night, sources said.

"The cities of Karachi and Hyderabad have witnessed very serious ethnic strife," an official communique said.

"Not only many innocent lives have been lost and public and private property worth millions of rupees destroyed, but economic, industrial and commercial activities in the province (of Sind) received a serious setback."

The arrested included PPI President Malik Mir Hazar Khan, PPI General Secretary Malik Ghulam Sarwar Awan and MIT President Salim Hyder, the sources said.

MQM President Altaf Hussain has gone to ground, they said.

Local evening papers said Saturday that the government had decided to ban the three ethnic parties, but there was no official confirmation.

Opposition leaders, including Benazir Bhutto, co-chairman of the Pakistan People's Party [PP], and Mian Tufayl Mohammed, chief of the right-wing Jamiat Islami, have deplored the government's inability to curb the violence.

Miss Bhutto has called for extra security for shopkeepers and other traders against the rioters "who kill the innocent and loot their property."

Prime Minister Mohammed Khan Junejo has also expressed concern over the violence here and urged the warring communities to show restraint.

The clashes which began Wednesday between the Urdu-speaking Muhajirs and PPI militants have claimed 25 lives in Karachi and another five in Hyderabad, 100 miles (160 kilometres) north of here.

Karachi's worst-hit Shah Faisal and Liaquatabad districts, where crowds had barricaded roads, burned more than 60 shops and houses and set ablaze dozens of vehicles, have been under curfew since Wednesday.

As darkness fell Friday authorities clamped an indefinite curfew on the Landhi, Korangi, Malir, New Karachi and Gulbahar areas where shooting had broken out, people had been stabbed and buildings set ablaze, official sources said.

The latest clashes were triggered by a minor dispute centring on the hoisting of the flag of the Urdu-speaking MQM in Shah Faisal.

Fifteen people had died in similar clashes in that district earlier this month.

400 Arrested Following Clashes

BK301023 Hong Kong AFP in English
1009 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Karachi, Aug 30 (AFP) — Pakistan police have arrested more than 400 people, including the leader of an ethnic movement, in a crackdown in the wake of bloody clashes in southern Pakistan, police sources said Sunday.

Police had raided suspected hideouts without finding Altaf Hussein, the leader of the Muhajir Quami Movement (MQM), but he surrendered at the office of the deputy commissioner of karachi's Central District early Sunday, the sources said.

The sources said that police had arrested more than 400 people in the past four days following clashes between local Urdu-speaking Muhajirs and Punjabi and Pakhtoon settlers which had left at least 30 people dead and hundreds wounded across southern Pakistan. Police were also reported to be carrying out a door-to-door search for arms and ammunition in the Shah Faisal area of Karachi, which has been under curfew since Thursday. [passage omitted]

Local evening papers said Saturday that the government had decided to ban the three ethnic parties, but there was no official confirmation.

Police Seize Arms, Arrest 6

BK310249 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Karachi Criminal Investigation Department police have seized a large quantity of arms and explosives, including 34 revolvers, 2,600 rounds of ammunition, and 1 kalashnikov rifle. Six persons were also arrested for supplying arms to miscreants and antisocial elements.

Official Views U.S. Gulf Policy, Internal Security

BK301011 Lahore JANG in Urdu 20 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] Karachi — Defense Secretary Ijlal Haider Zaidi has said the Pakistan Government has made it clear to the United States that it will not become involved inthe Gulf dispute, nor will it allow its territory to be used against the brotherly country of Iran. Pakistan has been threatened by a suspension of U.S. aid for this behavior. He was informally talking to newsmen during a luncheon after his press conference on Wednesday [19 August]. He said that the Gulf situation is deteriorating day by day and Pakistan has kept aloof from the dispute.

In reply to a question, the defense secretary said that concrete steps have been taken to check the infiltration of foreign saboteurs across the border. He said that KHAD agents are coming to Pakistan in the guise of Afghan refugees, while Iranians, Bangladeshis, Indians, and people of other neighboring countries enter the country illegally by taking advantage of the corruption and indolence of the border personnel. He said that the nation will have to display more patience and restraint for about 6 months or 1 year. By that time,the pressure caused by these bomb blasts will subside.

In reply to a question at the press conference held at a local hotel, Ijlal Haider Zaidi said that in view of the challenge of terrorism, laxity in security must not be tolerated at the country's airports. The defense secretary's attention was drawn to the difficulties faced by passengers as well as visitors due to searches carried out by airport security forces at the gates on the way to Karachi airport. He said whatever security steps have been taken at the airport are in the interest of the nation and the country. The security of the passengers is of greater significance than minor inconveniences. He said that in view of recent terrorist activities, we have given priority to the protection of aircraft. For this reason armed security personnel are deployed around the aircraft. This practice is prevalent in all countries facing terrorism, not just Pakistan. He said that German and International Air Transport Association experts have inspected airport security and described them as extremely satisfactory. The secretary said that it costs 30 million rupees to install a security cordon around an airport.

Satellite Launch Planned for Early 1988

BK301626 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Pakistan's first experimental satellite is to go into orbit early next year. Being built indigeneously, it will be completed by the end of this year. The satellite will orbit the earth at an altitude of 500 kilometers.